

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

Editorial and Executive Office: 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois

An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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Second Coming of Christ as a Motive

By Chas. H. Spurgeon (Died 1892)

Many dear brethren turn from the investigation of the Lord's coming to restore all things and reign in peace and glory on this earth, because it seems (in their estimation) to discourage missionary efforts and is on the whole a doctrine of no practical importance. The same objections have been urged against the doctrines of grace, and the latter one against the doctrine of believer's baptism. Will such objectors ponder the following passages of God's Word and note the motives by which practical duties are pressed upon renewed heart?

1. The coming of the Lord is made the great motive for steadfastness in the faith, and for the confidence of hope—(1 John 2:28) —: "Now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming."

2. It is made the great motive for exercising Christian patience amid the vexations and trials of life—(James 5:7, 8): "Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

3. It is made the great motive for sobriety of mind and Christian perseverance—(1 Peter 1:13): "Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." This is a strong and decisive passage as to the nature and object of the Christian hope.

4. It is made the greatest motive for the mortification of sin in believers—(Col. 3:4, 5): "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory; mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth."

5. It is made the great motive for heavenly-mindedness—(Phil. 3:20): "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour."

6. It is made the great motive for temperance in all things (Phil. 4:5): "Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand."

7. It is made the great motive for brotherly love (1 Thess. 3:12, 13): "The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: To the end he may establish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at

the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints."

8. It is made the great motive for personal holiness and continuous self-discipline (1 John 3:2, 3): "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know

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Further Answers to Post-tribulation Teachers Will the Church Escape the Great Tribulation?

(Seventh in a series on this important question.)

By Evangelist John Linton
328 Belle Isle View, Riverside, Windsor, Canada

It is not enough for us who teach pretribulation rapture to present our own case, we must face objections from the other side.

Is the Tribulation the Wrath of God?

We are charged with overlooking a distinction between these two. Explaining the reason for the rapture, Paul declared in 1 Thessalonians 5:9 that the church is 'not appointed unto wrath.' The wrath here, as the context shows, is the tribulation wrath, and the church obtains deliverance from it by being raptured as Paul has just described.

Forced to explain "not appointed us unto wrath" post-tribulationists do so by first denying that the Great Tribulation is the wrath of God, and then trying to insert a period of wrath after the tribulation, separate from the tribulation, greater in severity, and taking place just before Christ comes to earth. Thus they make the Bible to say; first, the tribulation, then the wrath of God, and then the visible coming of Christ. They claim the church will go through the tribulation but will escape the wrath of God to be poured out in this supposed awful period of wrath after the tribulation is over and before Christ comes to earth. In this way they explain "not appointed us unto wrath," which gets them out of one difficulty but lands them into many more.

Among those who make this clearly imaginary distinction are Ladd, Ockenga, and J. Sidlow Baxter. Dr. Baxter writes, "The Great Tribulation and the wrath of God are not identical." Referring to Ockenga, Dr. Ladd says, "As Dr. Ockenga has pointed out . . . pretribulationists are in error in identifying tribulation and wrath." While Ladd himself states, "The Great Tribulation will consist of these two elements: tribulation at the hands of Antichrist, and the wrath of God. These two are not to be confused."

Ladd then raises a very important point for his own position when he states, "It is the clear teaching of Scripture that the church will never suffer the wrath of God . . . If the position rested on this fact alone, pretribulationism would be inevitable." Can they be shown to be one and the same? I submit nothing is easier to prove.

Prize Winning Sermon in Sword \$1600 Evangelistic Sermon Contest

The Noose

By Rev. Hugh F. Pyle, Pastor,
Central Baptist Church
1116 West 11th Street, Panama City, Florida

"So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai."—Esther 7:10.

"So they hanged Haman!" What an amazing climax to this story! And yet it is always so. Sin terminates in the noose! Who could ever have convinced Haman that he was having his own gallows built? Who would have dreamed that he himself would hang in the very noose he prepared for Mordecai? But if the truth be known, every sinner is preparing his own noose! The truth is proclaimed daily in the gripping drama of everyday life. And the Bible abounds with graphic illustrations of "The Noose!"

Did not the Babylonian Gestapo feel the fangs of the very lions they were so sure would devour Daniel?

Was not Pharaoh drowned in the Red Sea on the very day that he had planned the death of Moses and the Israelites?

And did not the plot of Judas to sell Jesus literally result in—the noose?

So sin catches up with the sinner.

Retribution is sure.

From Genesis to Revelation God warns men about the noose that awaits the sinner. "The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken. The Lord is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands" (Ps. 9:15, 16). "God is angry with the wicked every day. He hath also prepared for him the instruments



Evangelist Hugh F. Pyle

of death" (Ps. 7:11, 13). If only sinners could see the noose before it is too late!

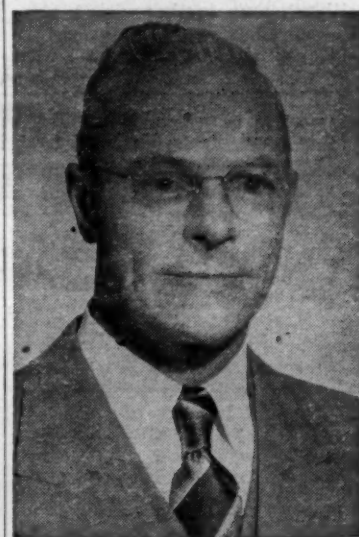
Now since "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable . . ." (II Tim. 3:16), let us turn to the Divine Record and discover what led Haman to the noose. In seeing this, we will see a life-size portrait of the life and destiny of every man.

First, look at

The Haughtiness of Haman.

In chapter 3 of this thrilling biblical drama we read that the king promoted Haman and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him. Most people can stand anything better than success and promotion. We are inclined to forget that "every

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Rev. John Linton

Referring to this supposed period of wrath, Baxter writes, "That 'Wrath of God' is the last awful end-bit which immediately follows (Matt. 24:29) the Great Tribulation." He claims the church will be in the tribulation but removed from "this last awful end-bit" after the tribulation. He offers as proof of this (Matt. 24:29) but the reader, like myself, will look in vain there for any hint of such a period. Here is the verse:

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heaven shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matt. 24:29, 30).

I have added verse 30 there for clarity. I leave it with my readers to see if there is any such period of wrath mentioned there. As for the other writers they offer no proof, and for the reason that no such proof exists. On the contrary, the evidence against it is overwhelming.

One illuminating phrase from our Lord Himself shatters this interpretation completely. How could there be a period of wrath and judgment AFTER the tribulation,

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We Need a New Vision

By Evangelist Walt Handford, Assistant Editor

"Where there is no vision, the people perish. . . ."—Prov. 29:18.

Nothing truly great is ever done without men of vision. Great business ventures are never successful without leaders with a vision. Behind every important school ever started were men with unusual vision of the need for education. Every great nation has had behind it unusual leaders possessed with a vision of what could be done.

And in God's work, too, we find there is a desperate need for Christians with vision. If you would be successful in working for the Lord Jesus, you must share His vision as He saw the multitudes scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd. You must be able to weep over your town as He wept over Jerusalem and cried, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matt. 23:37).

It was Paul's vision of an awful Hell that made him cry out, "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh" (Rom. 9:3). It was his vision of a great Saviour and a dy-

ing world that caused him to carry the Gospel to city after city in spite of persecution, shipwreck, beatings, stonings, and other abuse.

It was a great vision of the need of the world for Christ that caused the churches in the book of Acts to be so successful. In less than a century after Jesus died and was raised again, these churches had carried the Gospel throughout the then known world. This was undoubtedly the greatest period in the spread of the Gospel. Why? Because these churches had men of vision who saw a world in need.

It was a great vision of a country needing salvation that made John Knox cry out, "Give me Scotland or I die!" John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, had a world vision when he said, "The world is my parish."

Needed: A New Vision

Today the work of Christ languishes in most places because so few Christians have a real vision of what needs to be done. Few of us are really gripped with the thought that 115,000 souls per day go out into eternity—most of them going to Hell without even knowing of Christ. This means that

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Charles H. Spurgeon



Editor's Notes

Mrs. Rice and I are at Raleigh, North Carolina, the state capital. We came Wednesday night from Greenville where I had been speaking in the annual Bible Conference at Bob Jones University. We had breakfast at 7:00 with the Christian Businessmen's Committee of Raleigh, some twenty-five businessmen and pastors, and I spoke to these good men. Since then I have spoken at the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, at the Catawba Christian Church fifteen miles in the country, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, at the Poole Street Baptist Church, and tonight I speak at the Free Will Baptist Church at Garner. Then in the morning Mrs. Rice and I and Pastor Pat Henry will go to Jacksonville, North Carolina, for three services, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights in the city auditorium.

We have had many happy incidents. Ten people have been converted, six of them adults. We have had about as many make public return from backsliding.

(Later: Sunday night we had a blessed revival service, nine conversions and reclamations. One was a boy of 14; all others adults. Many tears, great joy, long-prayed-for people saved or came back to the Lord. I believe the preaching of Evangelist Fred Kirby of Fayetteville, North Carolina, in a revival just closed had prepared many.)

Many others have made holy vows and turned from some troublesome sin, or begun to win souls. The fellowship has been sweet. There are many kind words for THE SWORD OF THE LORD and the pastors urged me to take subscriptions as I have from place to place. God willing, we will drive back the 150 miles or so on Wednesday night, take a plane Thursday morning for Chicago and then out to Wheaton and to the work.

Everywhere I go I see the need for great breaking-out revivals, old-time revivals sponsored by Bible-believing churches and pastors and individuals, not depending upon the rich churches, the modernistic preachers, but depending on God and His out-and-out people, Bible believers who want plain preaching, who want to live clean, separated lives, are not ashamed of the Gospel, and want to win souls. How white is the harvest! And what a great need for evangelists who will learn the work, do the organization, learn to do

the solid, sharp Bible preaching that changes lives and spreads community-wide conviction and that will turn hundreds and thousands to Christ.

Get Bill Rice's Book About Super, the Great Dane Dog

In THE SWORD OF THE LORD you read some charming story sermons by my brother, Dr. Bill Rice, of the Cumberland Conference on the Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Tales hilarious or hair-raising, tales involving Bill and his wife, "the Princess," the two boys and two girls, visiting dignitaries, mother-in-law, and neighbors! And always with a Scripture and an application. These stories about Super, these little sermons, are put in book form now and I want you to have them. First they appeared in *The Branding Iron*, the monthly organ of the Bill Rice Ranch. Then we were allowed to take them for use in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Many a chuckle, a few tears, and some profound truths are therein and you should have this book for neighbors and friends to read and for rereading yourself. Send \$1.00 or more to Dr. Bill Rice, Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, for a copy.

20-Unit Motel Now Building. Need Helpers, Material, Money

Dr. Bill Rice has taken three weeks out of revival campaigns to get a twenty-unit motel building going on the ranch at Murfreesboro. This nice building, built by an architect's plans, each room with private bath, is greatly needed for this summer. Every room will be filled in the conferences for the deaf where so many are won to Christ, in the Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning, July 2-7, and in the Sword Family Conference (specializing on whole families) August 21-27.

I hope before you get this the entire foundation will be in and the concrete block laying will be in progress. Bill greatly needs some volunteer workers. Could you spend a week laying concrete blocks? Or as a plumber? Or as an electrician, running conduit and wire? Or are you a carpenter, and could you spend a week free putting up rafters, ceiling, roof, doors, windows? Or could you help as a concrete finisher, finishing the concrete floors and sidewalk? If at any time soon you could spend a week of solid work for Jesus Christ, and get your board but no pay, would you write Dr. Bill Rice, Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee?

They also need a great deal of lumber. They need 40 doors. They need commodes and lavatories, shower fixtures for the bathrooms. They need piping, soil pipe, and electric wiring. If you can contribute any of these things, please

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INCIDENTS

And Illustrations

By Evangelist Robert L. Sumner, Contributing Editor

One Mistake

Frequently you hear the expression, "Everyone is entitled to one mistake." Sometimes, however, that one mistake can prove to be very costly indeed!

In Wagoner, Oklahoma, David A. Jones decided he would stop on his way home from church and visit his son. The son, Charles, who worked in his father's grocery store, heard the front door starting to open and thought it was a prowler entering. He immediately grabbed a .22 caliber pistol and fired just as the door opened, killing his father instantly. Charles was hospitalized for shock. It was only one mistake but the father is dead and the son will suffer anguished memories the rest of his life.

Speaking of just one mistake, the Bible says in James 2:10, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." The Word of God does not agree that everyone is "entitled" to one mistake. On the contrary, that one mistake will doom and damn the soul forever unless it is satisfactorily settled in the eyes of a holy God.

The only way that sin can be settled is by the proper penalty being executed against it. As a result, each sinner must pay for his own sin in Hell or accept the just penalty that was paid by Christ on the cross.

What about your sin? Have you accepted the atonement of Jesus Christ, or will you be compelled to pay the just price of your own transgressions? You had better decide what you are going to do without any further delay since the power of choice may not be yours much longer. Now is the day of salvation; now is the accepted time.

From Saviour to Bullfighter!

Hollywood actor Jeff Hunter portrayed our Lord Jesus Christ in the latest movieland production of the life of Christ, "King of Kings." His next film, to be made in Spain, will portray him as a bullfighter! Even Hollywood columnist Sheila Graham has sense enough to acknowledge, "The two roles are planets apart!" Probably, in true Hollywood tradition, Hunter will be a drunken, adulterous, moral leper this next time out!

Peace Predicted!

Dr. Willard F. Libby, a former member of the Atomic Energy Commission and a 1960 Nobel prize winner in chemistry, told a Salt Lake City audience recently at the University of Utah that the destructive power of nuclear weapons may compel nations to settle their differences in order to prevent their own annihilation. Said the noted doctor: "The military is getting so efficient that it may well force peace, for it is developing war into a matter of total annihilation."

In all fairness, however, let it be remembered that the scientists of that day were making the same hopeful assertions when the bow and arrow weapon was invented. Those learned philosophers reasoned that since an arrow could be shot from a distance, hand-to-hand combat would automatically be a thing of the past and enemies would quite naturally lay down their arms through fear of the opposition's power.

We are all aware of the fact that it did not work that way then, and you may be sure that it will not turn out that way now. In the language of the Scripture, "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape" (I Thess. 5:3).

Good News on Page One!

This column doffs its literary hat to the journalistic brethren in Great Bend, Kansas, who publish the *Great Bend Tribune*.

General Manager Ben H. Em-

erson and Editor Paul R. Conrad came out with a Good News edition, putting all the stories of pleasant happenings on the front page and relegating the sordid and unpleasant to the inside. By way of explanation, they said: "Cognizant of the oft-repeated complaint, 'the press always plays up bad news,' the Tribune staff determined to play up pleasant news for at least one day."

The editors even got around the weather forecast—which called for cloudy and cooler—by "accenting the fact that there would be no problem with sunburn and the air would be crisp and invigorating."

How pleasant it would be if every newspaper would follow the same procedure, not for just one day, but with every edition. The major problem confronting such a policy, however, would be in finding enough material to fill up the front page. Many times the editors would probably have to leave it partly blank—or perhaps they could put some of the "comic strips" on page one. On second thought, most of the so-called comic strips do not deal with very pleasant happenings and even many of them would have to be eliminated.

Better yet, how delightful it would be if every newspaper would run the greatest of all "Good News" on the front page of every edition: "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel [good news] which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved . . . For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (I Cor. 15:1-4).

Did you hear about the spring message the Presbyterian Church in Watkins Glen, New York, put out in front of their bulletin board for the general public to read: "THE SNOW IS GONE. WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE NOW?"

Pray for Evangelist Sumner's meetings:

April 23-30:

Calvary Baptist Church
Oaklawn at Davis
Ypsilanti, Michigan

May 2-14:

Calvary Baptist Church
West Front & Cory Streets
Findlay, Ohio



By Mrs. Jessie Rice Sandberg



Wait a Minute

Did you ever hear the story of little Wait-a-Minute?

It has been a long, long time since I actually read the story; I think it was in my third grade reader. As I remember, there really isn't much to the plot of the story—something about a little girl who said, "Wait a minute" everytime she was called and thereby missed getting something she wanted very badly—but the moral haunts me yet!

Sometimes I wonder if maybe I am the original little "Wait-a-Minute" just grown up. So many of the important and good things I hope to do in life are pushed aside until "later . . . when I have more time . . . after I get this done . . . tomorrow . . ." and so on.

In a book for preacher's wives (*The Shepherdess*, by Arthur Wentworth Hewitt), the author relates a fictional dream in which he visits a special hades prepared for faulty minister's wives. He describes one poor doomed woman thus:

" . . . this punishee touched my heart. She had big pathetic eyes and a surprised innocent look . . . She had no sense of time, and though she had experienced the frustration of this deficiency a thousand times she did not guard against it by watching a watch or clicking to a clock.

I saw her going to church. (What! Are there churches in Hell? Yes, I have been to many of them which would be home-sick anywhere else.) But she was late. I saw her going to dinner and getting there just as the pie was being taken away. I saw her prepare a room beautifully for a wedding party, then go upstairs to dress . . . while the wedding guests would be ringing at the door. She even delayed her husband's dressing—his handkerchiefs never ironed separately . . . his underclothes wrong side out always. But all the time she kept looking so injured and surprised-at-it all that I asked her to tell me her story.

"O," she said, "I just let things lag and I didn't get around to anything. I called my husband to dinner, and then found that I hadn't put on the knives and forks . . . I really did mean to sew that button on my husband's Sunday coat, but I didn't get to it. So, late, hurried, and on the way to church he had to stand fidgety while I sewed the button on . . . If there was something to mend

or to typewrite for him one suggestion was never enough. I'd leave it waiting and waiting."

"But you always meant so well," I said. "It seems too bad for you to be punished here forever just suffering the same things you caused others to suffer. Must you stay in this nightmare forever?"

"O no," she answered. "I have permission to leave any day on the Heaven-bound bus."

"Then in the name of common sense, why don't you go?"

"Well, it's this way! I do mean to, and I get ready, but I don't realize how time goes and the

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Elizabeth Handford



Walt Handford

Y. P. Team at Family Conf.

Above you see Evangelist and Mrs. Walt Handford who will be in charge of the morning young people's meetings at the Sword of the Lord Family Conference at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, at the Bill Rice Ranch, August 21-27. Walt is a powerful, colorful evangelist. Mrs. Handford, "Libby," to her friends and loved ones, has worked very successfully with teen-agers, is the author of a Christian novel, *Romance at Red Pines*, published by Zondervan Publishing House, is the author of the Bible crossword puzzles which appear regularly in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. And Libby wrote the teen-age code of conduct widely circulated among Christian young people.

Young people will have their own one-hour service every morning, 9:30 to 10:30, and there will be open, careful discussion of such young people's problems as dating, courtship, movies, the dance, the dangers of necking, and how to win souls.

Plan now to attend the Sword Family Conference, August 21-27 at the Bill Rice Ranch, Murfreesboro.



AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

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Editor in Camp Meeting Near Atlanta July 10-14

Churches and pastors of the Atlanta area have planned an old-fashioned, revival-type camp meeting at the scenic Smyrna Campgrounds, twenty miles southeast of Atlanta, five miles west of Conyers, Georgia, at the junction of State Roads 138 and 212. Evangelist John R. Rice is guest speaker. The meals will be good.

I understand there are comfortable dormitory-style cabins; the

rates for the week for room and board are: single person, \$13; a couple, \$25; \$35 for family of three; \$43 for family of four; and \$49 for family of five or more. For \$1.00 per person you may make reservations, give the names of those in your group or family and send reservation fee to Rev. Norman Pyle, 420 Sargent Drive, S. E., Atlanta 15, Georgia.

Japanese Woman Saved Through Booklet

Missionary Fred Jarvis Writes of Buddhist Woman, Now in Full-Time Christian Work, Saved Through Booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

By the Editor

We should have given to readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD before now a copy of a good letter by Brother Fred Jarvis which came in the midst of last year. He said:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I was happy to read the other day in THE SWORD that you had sent \$2,500 to Word of Life Press to print another half-million copies of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" I had been waiting to hear from you for some time and had wondered about your plans for reprinting this since you had put the lovely full-page write-up about it in THE SWORD. I was delighted to know that the funds had come in and that you plan this new printing. When I talked to Brother McVety, he mentioned that you had mentioned my name in the letter to TEAM. He has promised us 200,000 of this half-million tracts, and we want to express our sincere appreciation to you.

"A few weeks ago I was preaching in Kyoto. There I met a full-time Christian worker and the missionaries told me her amazing story. For years she had been a devoted Buddhist and had spent much of her time in the temple. She showed me at least ten large scars on her legs where she had burned herself in her devotion to false gods. However, she had been converted through a tract which she found on the street, and now was serving the Lord full time. When I asked which tract it was, she told me it was your tract,

"What Must I Do to Be Saved?" This brought encouragement to me and I am sure will encourage your heart also. May God bless you. We assure you of our heartiest gratitude for all the thousands of dollars you have sent to us in Japan.

"The other day I shared with about a dozen pastors the news of this reprint and they were all happy to learn this and mentioned that they would like to have you come back to Japan again for the city-wide meetings which you had earlier been invited to hold here. "Again, thank you in Jesus' name for your fellowship."

We have a very urgent request for a big printing of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in Korea. We have an earnest plea for more copies in Portugal. We do not have enough money in the Free Literature Fund to take care of these needs. If some of God's people will give largely to the Sword Free Literature Fund, we would like to have millions more of these soul-saving booklets printed under the direction of our missionary committees in foreign lands. I am so glad they find the booklet helpful and that souls are saved in great numbers through these pamphlets wherever they are spread.

If you feel impressed to give to the Sword Free Literature Fund, then pray that God will use it and send your gift to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

A Foolish Editorial

Recently in the *Twin City Sentinel* daily, published at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, January 28, was the following editorial:

"This Senseless Law Should Be Repealed"

"How long does it take to break the grip of the past? Thirty-six years?"

"That's how long Tennessee has had on its book the law forbidding the teaching of evolution in the public schools—that same statue which brought on the famous Scopes trial.

"Men who closed their minds to science counted that foolishness a victory. But their only prize was ridicule. The schools of Tennessee went on teaching the theory of evolution with impunity and profit to education.

"Now two Tennessee legislators have said it is time to end the masquerade once and for all. They have called on the State Legislature to repeal this useless and unrealistic law.

"The lawmakers should do so willingly, and no monkey business about it."

It is surprising that a newspaper editorial writer would not know better than that. The law in Tennessee is not against the teaching of evolution as a theory. It forbids the teaching as a fact that which no reputable scientist believes is proved. The editorial states that those who do not believe men came by evolution in-

stead of by direct act of God are "men who close their minds to science."

This silly editorial would take up for the infidel Clarence Darrow, who defended evolution and would sneer at William Jennings Bryan the scholar, statesman, and Christian who defended the Bible. The editorial is an insult to intelligence as well as an insult to Bible believers.

The Editor Answers

Here we give a letter to the *Twin City Sentinel* concerning this foolish and childish editorial.

February 8, 1961

Mr. Robert F. Campbell
Twin City Sentinel
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I was in your city for eight days recently and someone handed me a clipping of your editorial, "This Senseless Law Should Be Repealed." I am surprised and shocked at such a foolish and unfactual editorial in a respectable newspaper. Since I have been an editor twenty-six years of a Christian magazine with world-wide circulation, going to every state in the union and ninety-one foreign countries, and going, among others, to some twenty thousand ministers, it seems to me disgraceful that editorial standards should be that lax and careless.

May I call your attention to

Dear Nieces and Nephews:

Let me tell you about a party I went to the other day. Our Sunday School got together, rented a skating rink, and for most of two hours we whizzed around the floor on roller skates. We had little boys and girls, six or eight, who couldn't skate well, high school young people, juniors, and a good many grown-ups. Nearly all of us were Christians, but we had invited a few of our lost friends hoping to talk to them about the Lord Jesus. And mothers, daddies, little boys and girls, and young people, all skated together in a seething mass.

I heard one little boy brag, "I only fell down nine times." Another skater, a mother who hadn't been on skates for five years, breathed a sigh of relief when the time was up and said she hadn't fallen at all. I nearly fell once when a little boy, skating too fast, ran pell-mell into me to help him stop.

And I learned again something I have known before.

First, let me say a word—we do not go to a public skating rink with all the world. We feel that we do not belong where the jazzy music and dancing on skates is a rule. We do not feel com-

some careless and irresponsible statements in that editorial?

1. You say, "Thirty-six years? That's how long Tennessee has had on its book the law forbidding the teaching of evolution in the public schools. . . ." And again you say, "The schools of Tennessee went on teaching the theory of evolution with impunity and profit to education."

The Tennessee law does not forbid the teaching of the theory of evolution. It forbids the teaching of evolution as a fact. The theory of evolution is so widely accepted that of course teachers of science should acquaint their pupils with the theory. The Tennessee law does not forbid that.

You say, "Men who closed their minds to science counted that foolishness (the Scopes trial) a victory." That remark is not intelligent. In the first place, William Jennings Bryan had far more degrees than did the infidel lawyer, Clarence Darrow. And besides, most of the scientific world itself would agree with Bible believers as far as to admit that evolution is not a proven fact, that in truth it cannot be proven as a fact, but is a theory—a working hypothesis. I was a college teacher, with a university degree and with graduate work in the University of Chicago. I have been an editor twenty-six years, and my books and pamphlets have had a total circulation of more than twenty million copies in more than thirty languages. I am somewhat informed on scientific literature and my library has thousands of volumes. When you say that those who do not believe evolution is a proven fact have "closed their minds to science," you talk like a high school boy. You have a right to believe that the Bible is not true, that God did not create all things in the beginning, as the Bible says, and you have a right to believe that man came by evolution, if you choose to do so. In this free country men have a right to be Christians or infidels. But no man has a moral right to misrepresent the facts and to oppose by slander what he cannot honestly oppose with reason and facts.

No intelligent person in the world believes that spontaneous generation of life is a proven fact. It is not even widely accepted among scientists as a theory. No intelligent scientist in the world would say that it is proven that evolution leaped the gap between plant and animal and the gap between animal and man. You have a right to believe that if you wish, but intelligent people cannot say it is proven as a fact. That is

fortable where the air is blue with cigarette smoke, and sometimes someone has been drinking. We go only when we can reserve the whole rink, when no outsiders except our own guests are there, and we can decide about the music and the whole party.

But there was something I learned again that day that I hope will help you. There were many grown-ups there. I think of one young lady who grew up on a farm where there were no sidewalks. She had never had a chance to roller skate until she was grown. She is a good sport and wanted to do what the others were enjoying. She put on skates right away, but when I offered to skate with her and help her, she wanted to wait a while until more people were skating.

You know if only ten people are skating and you fall, perhaps everyone would see you and might laugh. But if fifty people are all skating, and you fall, probably you could scramble to your feet again before many noticed your accident.

When the floor was filled with skaters, our country lass agreed to skate with me. She is

only a theory, a guess. And that guess of evolution is not even accepted now by many of the foremost scientists.

2. It is popular with communists and infidels to mock at the Bible and its teachings of direct creation. That does not make a man smart. It only proves that he does not mind insulting the intelligence of his people or more likely that he is young and brash and ignorant and does not know what is going on in the world of science.

You have a right to advocate that the law in Tennessee be repealed. But you ought to know what the law is about, and you ought to deal with facts when you advocate its repeal, and you ought not to insult Bible believers, scientists, and others who believe that man came by direct creation of God. And even if you feel like insulting Christians, there ought to be a moral sense of values that would keep one within certain reasonable, factual limits in an editorial. The founders of our nation recognized the need for "a decent respect for the opinions of mankind."

In Jesus' name, yours,
John R. Rice



By Aunt Mary

naturally graceful, but was really very shaky as we went around the circle for the first time. A little later she was more sure and enjoyed skating more. My friend never fell down at all, though if another skater bumped her a little she was scared to death.

But Maxine was a different skater. She had lived in town, and before she was very old, I think, an older brother had given her a pair of skates. Before she was old enough to be afraid of falling she had learned to skate well. That young lady could skate gracefully and casually. She was one of the best helpers for the beginner skaters who could lean on her without being afraid of falling. And Max could occasionally enjoy a fast skate around the rink alone.

Now what am I saying? Not that it is important to learn to roller skate well while you are young. That is a good idea, but not important. This is the point: The habits that you learn while you are quite young will stay with you when you are older. Do you believe that it is right for a grown-up to read the Bible every day? Then now while you are young you should establish the habit. Just as you learn to brush your teeth after every meal without stopping to think about it, just so you should regularly plan to read the Bible every morning. Just as regularly as you make your bed after breakfast—or does Mother say after breakfast is best?—just so should you go to Sunday School every Sunday morning, and to Sunday evening services, to prayer meeting every Wednesday!

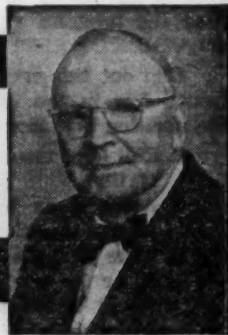
I think of a reverse force of habit. I know a good man, a Christian, who began to smoke cigarettes when he was very young and who has smoked for perhaps thirty years. He loves the Lord and wants to do right. But the force of a habit of youth is hard to break. Not long ago, convinced that his body was the temple of the Holy Spirit and that he was wrong to smoke, he tried to quit! Days went by and he hadn't smoked, but he always thought about it. He was used to finishing a meal with a cigarette, to smoking as he talked to a friend. Before long, we who were his friends realized that the man who wanted to please God had given up, and was smoking again. He knew it was wrong! He had decided to stop, but the habits of youth were strong, and he let Satan have a victory in his life.

You are young! You have trusted Jesus. I hope you will make the right habits now, so that when you are older it will be easier to do right! That makes sense, doesn't it?

First Corinthians 6:19 says, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" You belong to Jesus!

Lovingly,
Aunt Mary

Dr. Bob Jones SAYS:



We are happy to pass on to our friends comments made by former students of Bob Jones University. We quote now from a letter received from a graduate who is now Director of Music of a church in Florida. This man and his wife, both of whom attended Bob Jones University and who now have a son here, write: "Enclosed find check for \$25 for the Student Loan Endowment Fund. I want to give my sincere thanks to you and the Administration and to the Lord for the opportunity my wife and I had to spend four wonderful years in the kind of spiritual, cultural, and academic atmosphere most conducive to a well balanced Christian life. Each year we have been away from the campus has brought increasing realization of the effective ministry the University has

had preparing so many young people for efficient and fruitful service in such a variety of vocations."

My friends, I am making a special appeal to you orthodox, Bible-believing Christians at this time. Our financial budget is very heavy. We want to keep sending money to missionaries on the foreign field, and we must get more money to help students who need some financial assistance in order to attend this institution that God led me to found and which He is blessing so abundantly under the administration of my son, Bob, Jr., the President of the University. Won't you let us hear from you? Thank you, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
GREENVILLE, S. C.
(Advertisement)



Bud Lyles

Hello again! As the earth awakes in the spring, there arises a song in the hearts of those who love the Lord. We are reminded of the power of God to raise the dead and that one day we shall rise to meet the Lord. What a happy thought! What cause for singing! Let your heart sing as you read these reviews.

A happy instrumental album heads off this month's column. Harold DeCou, talented young artist, is heard in a fine program of sacred selections using piano, organ and a string ensemble. Mr. DeCou handles both piano and the organ with facility but he says he prefers the organ. Using the "over-dub" technique he performs some of the numbers as duets. Several other selections have the string ensemble backgrounds. We had lunch with Mr. DeCou in order to interview him and pass along to you readers some things of interest about his life and ministry. Our conversation went like this:

Lyles: "Mr. DeCou, our readers would like to know where you were born."

DeCou: "I was born near Philadelphia but the family moved to Chicago where I spent most of my boyhood. After my father died we moved to Collingswood, N. J., where my mother lives now."

B. L.: "Was yours a Christian home?"

DeCou: "Oh, yes. I heard the Gospel early in life and trusted Christ as my Saviour at the age of six."

B. L.: "Did you take interest in music as a child?"

DeCou: "Yes, with the help of patient and persevering parents. They impressed upon me that

the highest use of gifts which God has given, is in service to Him. Apart from their godly influence, I might have gone into secular concert work."

B. L.: "How and where did you meet your wife?"

DeCou: "I met Rose while I was with Rev. George Sweeting in a revival meeting in Brookfield, Illinois. We have three sons and live in Carol Stream near Wheaton, Illinois."

B. L.: "Your traveling in revival meetings keeps you away much of the time, I know, but where do you attend church when you are home?"

DeCou: "We go to the Village Church in Carol Stream."

B. L.: "Is there anything about your new album that especially pleases you?"

DeCou: "Well, yes. It is one thing to write out arrangements on paper. It is something else again to hear them performed. I really enjoyed hearing the arrangements as they were played back."

B. L.: "Can you tell us something of your schedule for the future?"

DeCou: "I'll be in a meeting in West Liberty, Ohio, April 16-23... in Atlanta, Ga., April 29-30, and in Chester, Pa., May 5-7. By the way, on June 3 there will be a Sacred Concert at McCormick Place in Chicago with a thirty-five piece orchestra and a one hundred voice chorus. I've been asked to play there."

B. L.: "Thank you, Mr. DeCou. I'm sure these things will be of interest to our readers."

The album is titled "Keyboards and Strings." Some of the songs are: Beneath the Cross of Jesus; O Say, But I'm Glad; My Sins Are Gone; No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus; The Lord's Prayer (Malotte); and Face to Face. WORD W-3133-LP

"Solitude" is the title given to an album of songs by the Dick Anthony Choristers. There is no doubt about the fact that Mr. Anthony is one of the outstanding musicians in Gospel work. He is unusually gifted as a pianist, arranger, composer, vocal soloist and director. This album features a male chorus with ladies' voices on some selections. Accompaniment is provided by trombone and strings, piano and organ. Twelve

Coming From Japan An Appeal of Love

From Rev. Tomonobu Yanagita, director of the Bible Translation Research Institute in Japan, comes a very earnest letter saying:

"A serious crisis has come to the work of the Lord here in Japan. Evangelist Tamezo Yamana and I have drawn up an 'Appeal of Love' which we are asking evangelical pastors and missionaries in Japan to sign. I am enclosing for you a copy of this appeal and would like to request that you publish it as soon as possible in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Later there will be many other names added to it. However, it is the appeal that Brother Yamana and I have drawn up asking others to join with us."

Here we follow with this "Appeal of Love" from Japan. We believe that this statement is Christian, wise and scriptural, and ought to be heeded by earnest Christians in America as well as in Japan.

An Appeal of Love

As those who love the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and who are truly concerned about bringing the lost of Japan to Christ, we are seeking only the glory of God. God is glorified only when we obey the commands of Scripture. If our brethren in Christ are acting contrary to the commands of Scripture, it is our moral responsibility to warn them and to seek to restore them to the scriptural position. Therefore, we believe it is our responsibility, in the face of the present crisis that has come to the work of the Lord Jesus Christ in Japan, to send forth this dissent of love and to give this constructive proposal to World Vision and to all evangelical Christians.

1. The Tokyo Christian Crusade, as it is now constituted, has no definite statement of faith or aim. Those who believe the Bible to be

selections including: Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee; Hiding in Thee; Just a Closer Walk With Thee; Drifting; I Am His And He Is Mine; and What Will You Do With Jesus? WORD W-3120-LP.

We are happy to hear the album "Unto the Hills" which features the Mennonite Hour A Cappella Choral Groups. This is a unique presentation of music familiar to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Of the twenty-three selections, thirteen are songs from "Harmonia Sacra—a compilation of genuine church music," edited by Joseph Funk in 1832. The many friends of the Mennonite Hour will be especially interested in this album which also includes these familiar titles: Onward Christian Soldier; In Times Like These; Lord, I Want to Be a Christian. MENNONITE HOUR RECORDS MH-33LP 9.

We have heard many nice things about Mr. Ellis R. Zehr. He has traveled widely singing in evangelistic campaigns with "Rhiny" Barth, Dr. E. J. Daniels, Dr. Bill Rice, and now Dr. Hyman Appelmann. On his new album, Mr. Zehr has able assistance from a fine choral ensemble. His rich bass-baritone voice and clear enunciation help get the message of the songs across to the listener. Titles include: After; Ho, Everyone That Is Thirsty; The Breaking of the Bread; Over the Sunset Mountains; That One Lost Sheep; and A Child of the King. ZONDERVAN ZLP-565.

The Corner Stone people have done a real service to the Christian public by making available an album by the late Phil Kerr. It is called "I've Got a Melody." Here is all of the vitality and joy of Kerr's happy spirit—singing, playing and chatting in his familiar style. Those who have met

the infallible Word of God are working together with those who believe the Bible is fallible. The Tokyo Christian Crusade at this time is a divided house, built upon sand, and therefore cannot stand in the light of the Holy Scriptures. World Vision is seeking, by the declaration of its own spokesman, to be a "catalyst" to unite these two mutually exclusive positions and in so doing to erase the distinctions between them. World Vision is a trumpet that gives an uncertain sound since it is seeking to build up all churches regardless of whether they believe the Bible to be the infallible Word of God or not.

As those who believe the Bible to be the infallible Word of God, we cannot conscientiously cooperate in this unbiblical attempt to unite light and darkness (Matt. 7:24-29; Mark 3:25; I Cor. 14:8; Eph. 5:11).

2. We would warn the true children of God that if they cooperate with the Tokyo Christian Crusade, as it is now constituted on this unbiblical basis, that they are opening the door to the NCC-ecumenicals' invasion into and its eventual conquest of the whole evangelical movement in Japan. The NCC is seeking to be the voice of all Protestant Christianity in this country. To this end it is cunningly using World Vision, with which it does not agree theologically, to invade and assimilate the evangelical movement. Once evangelicals in this country are involved in this joint co-operative evangelization system, they will share the same compromising nature of the NCC-ecumenical movement in regard to Shinto idolatry and modernist unbelief, and will cease to be the salt of the earth.

3. We gravely fear that this Tokyo Christian Crusade, by its lavish spending of foreign funds which do not come from its own constituent churches, can in the long run only produce "rice Chris-

and heard Mr. Kerr will demand a copy of this wonderful album. Side A features songs and readings by Mr. Kerr. Side B holds a cross-section of artists who have appeared in the Monday Musicals which Mr. Kerr founded in Los Angeles. This album is a delightful listening treat. CORNER STONE PK-992.

"Harmony of the Soul" is an album of duets by Helen McAlerny Barth and Ray Felton. They have support by a choral ensemble under the direction of Mr. Scott Douglas. The titles of the selections chosen by the artists indicate a depth of spirituality. There is a distinct spiritual impact in the album. Fine blend of voices, warmth of feeling, sweet musical settings all work together to make a truly fine recording for any home. Some of the titles are: Pause At His Feet; The Riches of Love; We Shall Shine As the Stars; Footsteps of Jesus; and God Is Love. SINGSPIRATION GOLD SEAL RECORD LP-181.

Nine of the great hymns of the church are meticulously performed by the outstanding Mitzelfelt Chorale under the direction of Dr. H. Vincent Mitzelfelt. The sound is overwhelming, grand, majestic, befitting the master-pieces of sacred music which are heard. This will be a welcome addition to the libraries of those who love the great sacred classics. The album is called "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory." It must be heard to be really appreciated. Selections include: Battle Hymn of the Republic (a different and stirring arrangement); All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; A Mighty Fortress; All Creatures of Our God; and Sing and Praise to the Lord. CHRISTIAN FAITH Monophonic MC-4025 Stereo MC-425.

Bye now. Write to us
RECORDS
Box 420
Wheaton, Illinois

tians" through this compromising type joint evangelism which is only of a temporary and questionable effect.

4. We do appreciate the love of foreign evangelical Christians that prompts them to sacrifice for the evangelization of Japan. We appeal that funds be sent to sound evangelical missionaries who are now in Japan endeavoring to establish Bible-believing churches, but who are little known and considerably hindered by lack of funds, since they have no large propaganda machine. Actually World Vision is draining off funds that should rightly go to them for their truly biblical work. Money given by evangelicals abroad to World Vision to sponsor this compromising Tokyo Christian Crusade is being used to defeat the evangelicals.

We earnestly pray that a truly biblical position will be taken by World Vision, and then we can conscientiously and gladly cooperate. What we evangelicals do now will determine the course of the evangelical movement in Japan for years to come.

Tamezo Yamana
Tomonobu Yanagita
Tokyo
March 24, 1961

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Since January 1959, Dr. Rice has conducted the VOICE OF REVIVAL broadcast. The weekly half-hour program features a large choir and specials by the Rice Sisters plus the plain, sharp Bible message by this well-known evangelist, author and editor.

Although nearly every section of the country could hear the broadcast through present outlets, many areas find reception clear only if all conditions are just right. Of course some areas do not hear the program at all. You may live in an area not covered by the VOICE OF REVIVAL. What can you do to get in on these blessings?

Clip out this article and put it in a safe place. Detach the blank below. Fill in the information requested and send it to us. When the audition tape arrives here is what to do:

1. Call the manager or program director of your local radio station.
2. Arrange an appointment when he can hear the tape and discuss it with you.
3. Take the tape and keep the appointment.
4. After he has heard the tape, ask him whether his station would be willing to air this independent gospel broadcast on a sustaining (free time) basis.
5. If he does not show interest in giving free time, ask about the cost for local sponsorship of a half-hour weekly broadcast.
6. If the price is reasonable and you or a group of businessmen or churches can underwrite the cost, proceed to an agreement for a specific half-hour segment on Sundays at a time which would not conflict with church services.
7. Write to us and tell us of the arrangements you have made and the date on which the first broadcast is to be aired. Be sure to give us the name and address of the station so that we can mail the tapes each week.

(Cut along line)

I am interested in getting the VOICE OF REVIVAL on a local station. Please send me an audition tape.

Name _____ Station(s) _____

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Please mention THE SWORD OF THE LORD when answering advertisements.

WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

EVANGELIST DEL FEHSENFELD, 6427 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri, closed a revival March 26 with the Zion Baptist Church of Trask, Missouri. Rev. H. G. Richardson is pastor. There were 53 professions of faith in Christ, among them a man sixty-nine years old. Three others united with the church by baptism and letter. In a special youth service, 16 surrendered to obey I Corinthians 10:31.

DR. PHIL SHULER, 5760 West 60th, Arvada, Colorado, held a revival in a small country church in Briggsdale, Colorado. Rev. G. H. Dillner, pastor, reports that in this church of less than a hundred membership, there were some first-time decisions for Christ, but the main work was in getting church members stirred up to go out after the lost. Brother Dillner heartily recommends Evangelist Phil Shuler for his soul-winning, evangelistic ministry.

DR. J. OSCAR WELLS, Box 417, Bethany, Oklahoma, held an eight-day revival in the Faith Baptist Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, recently. Rev. Charles L. Pack, pastor, reports 20 additions and conversions and 2 rededications. On youth night 13 young people came forward vowing to live out-and-out lives for Christ. The church is only three years old, but they broke the previous Sunday School record with 183 in Sunday School.

EVANGELIST JACK VAN IMPE and his wife, 14 Gage Street, Pontiac 16, Michigan, held a revival in the Dayton Baptist Temple of Dayton, Ohio, recently. Gerald O. Fleming, pastor, reports a real old-fashioned revival with much heart searching among the Christians during the week. Also there were 56 additions to the church during the week. The crowds grew night by night until on the last Sunday night there were more than 1,300 folk filling the auditorium. The pastor heartily recommends the Van Impe's unusual musical talent and straightforward Bible preaching.

EVANGELIST A. K. PAULEY, 508½ Buckley Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, held a revival in Tenna, Georgia, in a church which was about to be closed and with no pastor serving it. There were 7 who accepted Christ, 3 backsliders were restored, one broken home was reunited, a dope addict gave up his dope, and Christians set out to win souls to Christ. Brother Pauley has been invited back for another revival in September.

EVANGELIST ED NELSON, pastor of South Sheridan Baptist Church, Denver, Colorado, held a revival recently in the First Baptist Church of Danville, Illinois.

There were 27 recorded decisions for salvation, 16 recorded rededications, over 30 who agreed to start family altars, and between 10 and 15 who agreed to begin tithing.

EVANGELIST BOB PERSSON, Route 2, Oak Forest Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, writes to report several weeks of meetings. The meetings were held in the Community Bible Church, Batavia, Iowa, where Rev. Kermit Black is pastor; the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of Remer, Minnesota, where Rev. Richard Keller is pastor; and the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of Verdale, Minnesota, where Rev. Vernan Voth is pastor. During these meetings there were 21 first-time decisions, 52 rededications, 17 surrendered to full-time service and a number of other wonderful decisions among Christians.

EVANGELIST ARNOLD WILLIS, 405 Linden Circle, Huntington 5, West Virginia, reports two very stirring meetings just completed. March 8-19 in the EUB Church, Pennsville, Pennsylvania, with 13 conversions, 14 rededications, and 5 for full-time work. March 20-26 Bixler EUB Church, near Westminster, Maryland, with 10 conversions, and 3 rededications. Both of these meetings were held in small rural churches but with stirring results.

EVANGELIST ELWIN ANDERSON, P. O. Box 4091, Spartanburg, South Carolina, held a revival February 22-March 3 at the Maranatha Baptist Church of Elkton, Maryland. Rev. Allen Dickerson, pastor, writes to report good crowds in spite of rainy and snowy weather. He says, "God blessed in the meeting with a good number of souls being saved and a large number of life-changing decisions being made among Christians. The dear brother's plain, strong Bible preaching was a real blessing to our church."

Rev. Dewey Godwin, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Morrisonville, Illinois, writes to report two revivals held in his church. Last November Evangelist Charles Bray of Springfield, Missouri, held a one-week revival with 11 decisions for Christ. **DR. JIM MERCER**, 2844 Elizabeth Lake Road, Pontiac, Michigan, was in the church the first week in April, and there were 7 souls saved plus 2 who came for membership.

EVANGELIST GLEN SCHUNK, 10 Blythwood Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, recently held ten days of revival services with the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina. Dr. Otis R. Holmes, pastor. He writes rejoicing over great blessings.

"God blessed even more than any numbers could indicate as Glen Schunk's ministry is of a

Will the Church Escape The G. T.?

(Continued from page 1)

and worse than the tribulation, when Christ stated that the suffering, anguish, and severity of the Great Tribulation was SUCH AS NEVER AGAIN SHALL BE?

"For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, NOR EVER SHALL BE" (Matt. 24:21).

That should be all one needs to say to dispose of an assumption that clearly contradicts Scripture. This supposed period of wrath, apart from and after the tribulation, is a mere assumption unproven and unprovable. The words of our Lord, "nor ever shall be," give the death-blow to this invention.

But further, this alleged period of wrath after the tribulation and BEFORE Christ's coming to earth is contradicted by the very verse Baxter uses to prove his point! Verse 29 reads, "Immediately after the tribulation" Christ comes in the clouds of heaven to the earth. Where is there room for any period, either short or long between two events when one is said to follow IMMEDIATELY AFTER the other? It is not permissible to add to the Scriptures in order to support our position. This second death-blow is not required, but if it is, the word

The religions of the world say "do and live." The religion of the Bible says, "live and do."—Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

lasting type. The church experienced a genuine revival. People who had only been talking about winning souls actually did win souls during the meeting and are continuing to do so. The increased Sunday School and church attendance continues to mount. Brother Schunk has the unique way of getting the people to work and tend to their job as a true Christian should.

"The Lord was present each service in a very real sense. Souls were saved in the home and in every service. There were 60 souls that were personally dealt with in our 'prayer room' who made clear-cut confession of Christ as Saviour publicly in the service. Many rededications, vows for soul winning, and other type decisions were recorded. Several complete families were saved. I am thankful that we experienced the convicting power of the Holy Spirit in most of our regular services, as well as the special ones. However, it is marvelous when we see that extra special anointing and people under deep conviction rush forward to get right with God. We experienced that in this meeting.

"This is the second meeting that Glen has had with us here at Tabernacle. Our people wholeheartedly invited him to return again for two weeks in 1964 or in 1963 if he happens to have a cancellation that year. I have had the joy of having many good evangelists in revival meetings. It is my sincere opinion that he ranks right at the top along with others of my acquaintance.

"Glen has led us again in a plan for successful follow-up campaign in helping young Christians in growing in grace. It was highly successful in his previous meeting with us."

Dr. Holmes took this work when there were fewer than fifty in Sunday School. A year and a half ago they had 99 in Sunday School. Last Sunday a week ago they had 258 in Sunday School. Praise the Lord for His blessings on this good pastor and church and on our friend and beloved brother, Evangelist Glen Schunk.

EVANGELIST JOSEPH T. LARSON, 4203 Alcott Street, Denver 11, Colorado, writes to report a series of meetings in the Crescent Heights Baptist Church, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, February 22-March 5. In the absence of any pastor, these meetings were conducted and there were 47 decisions for salvation plus other decisions among Christians. One man saved was a Roman Catholic.

"immediately" in verse 29 supplies it.

It is simply not so that the Great Tribulation is in two separate parts: first—persecution by the Beast; second—the wrath of God. The tribulation is the wrath of God from start to finish. The plagues of Revelation, chapters 6 through 16 are God's wrath poured upon the earth-dwellers and the throne of the Beast. We proved from Luke 17 that the judgments begin as soon as the church is removed. This whole seven years is a period of judgment. What are the seal judgments in Revelation 6 but the wrath of God and stated to be so in verse 17—"the great day of his wrath is come." The trumpet judgments are called "these plagues" in Revelation 9:20. Are not plagues the wrath of God? "Plagues" are identified with wrath in Revelation 15:1. The vials of wrath are called "the seven last plagues." If they are the last, then the other plagues coming before the vials were part of the same wrath. We are told that the vials "fill up" or complete the wrath; they complete whatever wrath had already been visited on unbelievers, by the seal and trumpet judgments. Could anything be plainer?

Since this has been proven, where stands Dr. Ladd's statement, "The church will never suffer the wrath of God"? If the church is then on earth, she certainly will suffer unless divinely preserved. Is she? The saints of the tribulation period, the Bible teachers, are "overcome" by the Beast; they are killed; the martyrs of Revelation 6 and 7 die of hunger, thirst and heat in the tribulation plagues. THEY WERE NOT SAID TO BE PRESERVED. Post-tribulationists are helpless here to prove that the church is to be on earth and supernaturally preserved. We are told in Revelation 7 that 144,000 Jews from all the twelve tribes of Israel were (are to be) sealed so as to be preserved alive in the plagues. Dr. Ladd has to find some proof that the church is preserved, seeing he insists the church is on earth. So he actually suggests that these Jews are the church! He thus reveals the utter weakness of the post-tribulation view. There was one only way of escape for the church. It was promised in Luke 21:36, and Revelation 3:10—they would be raptured into Heaven before the tribulation began.

The First Resurrection

Another objection concerns the passage which Dr. Ladd admits is the one only Scripture which he thinks explicitly teaches that the church will be on earth during the tribulation. We would expect, therefore, something very clear and definite to support post-tribulation rapture. Here is the passage:

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, nor his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection" (Rev. 20:4, 5).

The first thing to note here is that two different companies are mentioned. "I saw thrones, and they sat upon them . . . and [or also] I saw the souls of them that were beheaded." First, we have a glorified company of believers in redeemed bodies seated on thrones, rewarded, and crowned. (Souls are not enthroned and crowned.) Second, the soul of the tribulation martyrs awaiting resurrection. These two companies, together with the two witnesses resurrected in chapter 11, are all apart of the first resurrection, of which Christ Himself, nineteen hundred years ago, was the firstfruits.

The key to this passage is to note that this is the first resurrection IN CONTRAST WITH THE FINAL RESURRECTION THAT FOLLOWS at the end of the kingdom age. In the resurrection chapter in I Corinthians 15 Paul tells us there is a stated order in resurrection. "Every man in his own order [or company]." All believers will not be raised

at one time. Christ the firstfruits is raised, then the church at the rapture, then the two witnesses in mid-tribulation, then finally the tribulation martyrs mentioned in our passage above. All are part of and have a share in the first resurrection. The fact that the first group is already seated on thrones and crowned identifies them with the church previously raptured and now rewarded and enthroned, ready to share the kingdom reign with those who died in the tribulation at the hands of the Beast. No explicit proof is here of post-tribulation rapture.

And just to confirm the above, note how impossible it is that the passage teaches, as they claim, the removal of every believer from the earth when Christ descends after the Great Tribulation. For if this were so, then of course there would be no believers left on the earth in natural bodies to populate the earth in the kingdom age. Scripture describes a godly remnant, both Jews and Gentiles, who escape death in the tribulation, and who pass into the millennial kingdom where children are born and people die. But if all believers are raptured and given immortal bodies when Christ comes to earth, then who are the earthly citizens of the kingdom? Post-tribulationism has no answer to this. Dr. Ladd does not even deal with the problem. There interpretation raises a question they cannot answer.

The Wheat and Tares

Another supposedly strong argument against pretribulation rapture is Matthew 13:30, where the gathering of the tares for burning precedes the gathering of the wheat into the barn:

"Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."

It is not said that the tares are burned before the wheat is gathered, but only that they are bound into bundles prior to the burning. This passage must be interpreted in the light of other passages dealing with the same subject. In Matthew 3:12 we read that Christ at His coming will "gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Note that here the wheat is gathered before the burning.

Then in the sister parable, in Matthew 13:48, of the good and bad fish we read, "And gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away." Here again the gathering of the good precedes

(Continued on page 6)

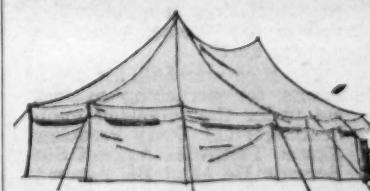
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the destruction of the bad. These last two passages, if they do not fully meet the objection contained in the first, at least neutralize its weight against pretribulation rapture.

Why Exemption?

It is also strongly objected that we have no right to expect immunity from the tribulation when all through history Christians have been permitted by God to suffer persecution. This point is stressed as if it were a devastating argument against deliverance by rapture from the awful tribulation. The early Christians, they remind us, rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer. Why, they ask, should the church of the last days seek exemption? In the words of one writer we are asked querulously, "Who, and what are we, that exemption from suffering should be accorded us?"

I frankly confess my astonishment when I read such words. All I can say is that this writer's quarrel is not with pretribulationists, but with the Lord Himself! What else can one say when Jesus strongly urged His disciples, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be ACCOUNTED WORTHY TO ESCAPE ALL THESE THINGS." Will these good brethren blame Christ for offering exemption from the tribulation? He said, "I will keep thee from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world" (Rev. 3:10). Will they question His love and wisdom in so promising? The one straight question I ask them here is, Are these words in the Bible or are they not? Robert Cameron says of those who prize this promise, "A desire to shirk suffering for Christ is a mark of spiritual degeneracy." This, of course, makes Christ a party to such spiritual degeneracy! What do these writers, teaching our ministerial students, do with such promises? They cannot deny they are there. Even if these two promises quoted above meant no more (they do) than preservation in the Great Tribulation, it would indicate that our Lord was still at fault in offering such preservation.

Reader, it is as clear as daylight that the failure of some to see pretribulation rapture is be-

cause they do not see that the Great Tribulation is the WRATH OF GOD UPON AN UNBELIEVING WORLD. To speak of the tribulation as comparable to past periods of suffering for the saints is to deny Christ's statement that it would be unique. The tribulation is not "the hostility of an evil age," as Ladd puts it. That is merely one part of the tribulation. Essentially it is the time of God's wrath and the church has no part in that. All complaint, therefore, against those who would prize exemption from such wrath; all talk about "spiritual degeneracy" marking those who rejoice in Christ's promised deliverance, simply proves that such objectors have failed to apprehend the true meaning of the tribulation, and therefore did not have the mind of Christ on this subject. Their complaint against Christ's promised exemption proves it.

An Incredible Charge

A surprising objection is made by Dr. Ladd that "The pretribulation doctrine as it is usually taught robs the church of one of the most dynamic incentives for world-wide evangelization." Ladd means that since our Lord stated in Matthew 24:14, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come," and because many pretribulationists believe this refers to a witnessing Jewish remnant in the tribulation, therefore pretribulationists are not much interested in world evangelization now, but are leaving it for the Jews in the tribulation!

This astounding charge will be news to many thousands of believers in pretribulation rapture the world over, wherever this copy of THE SWORD OF THE LORD is read. I repeat that multiplied thousands of believers in the at-any-moment coming of Christ have never even heard of such an idea, much less being controlled by it in their missionary endeavors. True many of them believe this passage refers to a witness by the Jewish remnant in the tribulation; many others of them believe it refers to the world-wide witness being given by the church in our own day. But whether they believe in one interpretation or the other, all of them know the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19, AND THEY ARE OBEYING IT.

It is not easy to write calmly and courteously concerning this unfounded charge, especially when Dr. Ladd inserts in his book a radical statement by Dr. O. J. Smith to this effect: "Under the heading 'A Dangerous Heresy' Dr. Smith says, 'But I know what some are saying. I hear it everywhere. They are saying: "This is not the task of the church at all, the Jews are to do it; we should leave it to them after we are raptured away!"'"

Reader, how is one to deal graciously with such an utterly irresponsible statement? Surely Dr. Smith's admirable missionary zeal is no excuse for making a statement so contrary to fact. For so it is. The great missionary enterprise of modern faith missions is supported almost in its entirety by believers in the pretribulation coming of Christ. People in our pretribulation churches are taught to pray, and give, and go, in order to hasten the coming of that glad day of His return.

One needs only to look at the Bible institutes, the fundamental colleges and seminaries of the United States to see where our missionaries come from. With very few exceptions, these training centers are committed to the doctrine of an imminent Second Coming.

The Greatest Missionary Work Is Done By Those Who Look for Christ's Coming at Any Moment

The denominational branch to which I belong, the Conservative Baptists of America, have some three hundred missionaries. It is doubtful if more than ten or a dozen are post-tribulation. Among the Regular Baptists there would be even less, and probably none at all.

The great Christian and Missionary Alliance began at Old Orchard after a study of Mark 13:10, "The gospel must first be published among all nations." The two men who, under God, began

this monumental missionary enterprise were A. B. Simpson and W. E. Blackstone, both ardent believers in pretribulation rapture; as are the vast majority of Alliance ministers and church members.

Consider Dr. Ladd's charge, backed by Dr. Smith's statement, in the light of the prodigious missionary effort of the "Back to the Bible" broadcast by Theodore Epp. They distribute 65,000 half-hour broadcasts yearly at a cost of \$2,000,000 and covering many parts of the world. These broadcasts give the Bible message in the major languages, and there is hardly a nation that is not reached by this witness. I am reasonably sure Dr. Epp would lean toward a Jewish interpretation of the passage in Matthew 24:14. Does that make him lie down on the job of world evangelization?

Perhaps the group that might be strongest on a Jewish witness in the tribulation is the people called Brethren. Are the Plymouth Brethren leaving world evangelization to the future as charged? The Brethren have missionaries all over the world.

What, then, can we say about this objection to pretribulationism, "They are saying: this is not the task of the church at all, the Jews are to do it. We should leave it to them. I hear it everywhere." I can honestly say I have travelled these United States and Canada for thirty-five years as pastor, evangelist, and Bible teacher, and I HAVE NEVER ONCE HEARD IT! I would like to ask Dr. Ladd respectfully if he himself has ever once heard it? He marred his fine book by reprinting that irresponsible statement.

A fair explanation of this extreme statement would be that Dr. Smith did not expect it would be taken quite literally. He may have heard it once or twice but to his impetuous missionary spirit that is "everywhere." He did not mean it to be taken literally any more than the statement he published in his church magazine when he wrote, "It is doubtful if there are still any reliable Bible teachers who believe the church will escape the tribulation." When he wrote that, Dr. Smith must have known that at the International Prophetic Conference in New York every one of the thirty speakers signed a statement of belief in the pretribulation rapture of the church. Also that by far the great majority of prophetic Bible teachers are pretribulationists. That was just his extreme and exaggerated way of stating his case. Those of us who know Dr. Smith understand this. Evidently Dr. Ladd doesn't.

Ministerial Students Being Misled

I regret having to deal so personally with this objection, but I have a burden on my heart over the spread of post-tribulationism. It is doing incalculable harm to our students. For example, all three fundamental training centers in Toronto, Canada, are post-tribulation and a-millennial, which includes both Baptist Seminaries and Toronto Bible College. I attended the ordination of one of their Baptist graduates recently. His statement of doctrine had practically nothing to say about prophecy. Just before the examination ended he was asked this question, "You have said nothing about the future. Is there to be a kingdom of righteousness established on the earth?" The candidate replied, "No, the kingdom is spiritual." I then asked this second and last question, "Do you believe the Lord Jesus will come back personally to this earth?" He answered, "No, the coming is spiritual." Tragic indeed that before these young men have had time and a chance to study prophecy for themselves, their minds are made up for them by such teaching. That is my burden in writing these articles.

It would be well if this missionary question could be cleared up for our post-tribulation brethren. Their insistence that Christ cannot come until something more is done in world evangelization is really a blow at the imminency of His coming. They talk in generalities when they claim the world must first be evangelized. How many have to be evangelized?

They do not say. Nobody knows that but God Himself. Must every individual hear before Christ can come? Did He say so? On such an important matter we must be both specific and scriptural.

The prophecy is that "the gospel must first be published among all nations." But according to Acts 2:5 and Colossians 1:6 it has been preached to all nations. The language here is purposely indefinite. With divine wisdom our Lord did not tell us how intensive the proclamation was to be. He did this in order to preserve the imminency of His coming. Let us keep to Scripture in defining the missionary objective. It is to be a world-wide witness to every nation, not necessarily to every individual. Through the modern missionary movement, that witness has been given to every nation in the person of some of her people. What nation in the United Nations Organization has not heard the Gospel? Dr. Ladd himself admits, "The world is nearly evangelized."

I repeat, nobody knows when the last person will be saved from among the Gentile nations in order to complete the number of the church. Certainly our task now is world evangelization. Pretribulationists have been preaching that all their lives. Never in the history of the church has there been such zeal for missions as we see today by both pre and post-tribulationists. The missionary task, however, must not be misinterpreted so as to destroy the possibility of Christ's coming at any moment. If we think He cannot

come until this and that is done, He answers, "In an hour such as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

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The Noose

(Continued from page 1)

good gift and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17), and that "it is the Lord that giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deut. 8:18). When we are advanced and promoted, there is the temptation to swagger and to conclude that we have thus arrived because of our own ingenuity!

So Haman saw to it that "all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and revered Haman." Men like this sort of thing. It caters to the flesh. It pampers our pride. It feeds our rotten ego. By nature people want attention, they want to be noticed, they want to be looked up to.

This is why some people join lodges or clubs instead of going to a Bible-preaching church. In the church they are told they are sinners and are doomed for Hell. In the lodge they are led to believe they are fine, upright citizens. For this reason, many people join moral uplift societies, civic clubs and other organizations that do some good from a charitable viewpoint but never touch upon the real issue of the soul and its relationship to God.

This is why the modernistic twentieth-century church is so popular with the natural man. Men love to be told that "we're all the children of God" and that "God is too good to send any of his children to Hell." It doesn't matter whether the minister gets his message from the Bible or not, just so it caters to the flesh and pleases the depraved ego!

Man by nature is haughty, but "pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18). Men need to hear God say, "The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down" (Isa. 2:11a).

So cocky Haman, strutting about the king's palace with his head high, is a perfect picture of the natural man who, in reality is at enmity with God.

Thus, he was preparing himself for the noose.

See, too,

The Hatred of Haman!

A certain man named Mordecai refused to bow and scrape before the cocky Haman. "Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence." And when the king's servants inquired for an explanation, Mordecai did not even bother to talk to them. He was a servant of God. He had something more important to do than argue with the Devil's crowd! "And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath" (Esther 3:5).

Hatred is a natural fruit of the flesh (Gal. 5:20). Unsaved people are described in Titus 3:3 as "hateful, and hating one another."

But the hatred that sinners have for one another is nothing to compare with their hatred for the righteous! Cain hated his brother Abel, and killed him "because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous" (I John 3:12b).

Wicked Ahab said of the prophet Micaiah, "There is yet one man, by whom we may enquire of the Lord: but I hate him: for he never prophesied good unto me, but always evil" (II Chron. 18:7).

So sinners hate the preachers who tell them the truth about themselves—unless they're sick enough of sin to want to find a way out! Many a faithful preacher must say with Paul, "Am I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?" (Gal. 4:16).

Even so, modernists hate the Bible-believing, fundamental preacher. World-loving denominational leaders hate Bob Jones University, Tennessee Temple College, or any other fundamental, separated Christian school because it puts their own worldly institutions in such a bad light. Time-serving, money-loving, position-grabbing religious workers always despise the humble, dedicated, consecrated Christian who refuses to compromise!

But in reality, the hatred of a sinner for a godly man is hatred for God!

Haman was not satisfied to merely lay hands on Mordecai, but "sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole

kingdom" (vs. 6). In this way he planned not only to kill Mordecai, but all of the people of Mordecai, the Jews. And he was willing to pay big money to get rid of these hated Jews.

Satan has inspired the hatred of the Jew through the years, but over and above and beyond it all is an intense hatred for God and a determination to dethrone Him. Satan's blitz on the Jew is an attack upon the Word of God, (for through them was given the Oracles of God), and an attack upon the promised "seed of the woman" who was to be the virgin-born "king of the Jews," Jesus Christ.

Lost people usually give the stock-in-trade excuses for not becoming Christians: "hypocrites in the church," "Sunday is the only day I have," "can't understand the Bible," "afraid I can't live it," etc., etc., but back of all such excuses is man's inbred hatred for God and

holiness. Does not the Bible declare that the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked? Truly, "all we like sheep have gone astray" (Isa. 53:6).

Lost people sometimes say they love God and would be offended if you suggested they did not; yet Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). He also said, "Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4b).

See, too,

The Henchmen of Haman.

Haman had the silver and "the people also" (vs. 11). The king's servants clustered around this suave disciple of Satan. Then when the time came to execute his anger against the people of God, he still had plenty of support from the cohorts of the Devil. It is ever so. "Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked." Birds of a feather flock

together. Old Haman needed to know that "a companion of fools shall be destroyed" (Prov. 13:20).

The crowd will be found on the side of Satan in this life. It was the mob that demanded the blood of Christ and the release of Barabbas.

Every notorious reprobate will find some ready henchman to pipe to his tune. Every delinquent teenager readily finds other dupes to trail along on his expedition of evil. Infidel college professors find plenty of gullible followers to trail along. High school young people are puzzled by the fact that the biggest crowds of "highly respected" young people from the "best churches" generally go along with the dances and other worldly pastimes enjoyed on the school campuses today. Separated Christians are always in the minority.

So Haman found plenty of stooges, plenty of tools, to execute his evil ambitions.

Trust

How often we trust each other,
And only doubt our Lord.
We take the word of mortals,
And yet distrust His word;
But, oh, what light and glory
Would shine o'er all our days,
If we always would remember
God means just what He says.
A. B. Simpson

O sinner, take no comfort from the fact that there's a crowd with you on the way to Hell. "Broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat" (Matt. 7:13b).

Khrushchev has his henchmen. The Pope has his henchmen. The

(Continued on next page)

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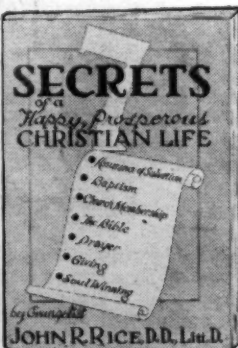
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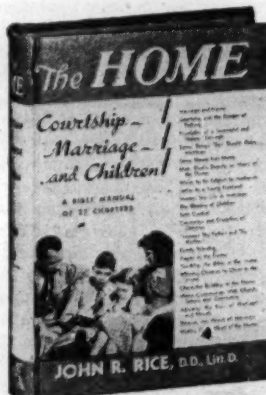
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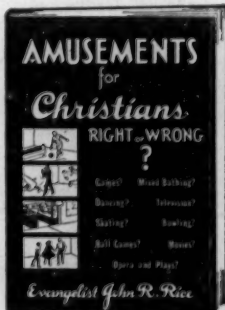
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The Hilarity of Haman.

After the decree to destroy all of the Jews, the Bible says that "the king and Haman sat down to drink" (Esther 3:15). Haman was a gay dog. He loved wine and banquets. When later the queen issued him an invitation to a banquet in the palace, he swelled with pride. He loved his good times. He was a lover of pleasure more than a lover of God! He lived in pleasures. He thought he was really living, but needed to read, "She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth" (1 Tim. 5:6).

Haman was like many worldly church members today. It did not matter to him that tears flowed and that many souls were in the grip of great sorrow over the decree of death. Suffering around him did not seem to touch him at all. He was like multitudes of sinners today who care not for the grief, the heartache, the misery caused by sin all around them.

Haman was a glamour boy, a slap-happy play boy. You would have found him, if he lived today, at the cocktail lounge one night, at the lodge hall the next, at the card table the next, at the theatre the next. His life was a round of pleasure and merry-making.

Haman sat down to drink. God pity the man who has no more sense than that. Yet Haman was not as besmirched, not as stupified, not as idiotic in sin as the modern twentieth-century sinner who can read of the dread results of alcoholism on every hand. Haman never saw a statistical report describing the multitude slain in alcohol-caused wrecks on the highway. Haman probably never saw, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Prov. 20:1). Haman never read Isaiah 5:11, "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue unto night, till wine inflame them!" Nor Isaiah 5:22, "Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink." Haman could never have heard Paul thunder, "No drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Cor. 6:10). But you can! The man who commits the folly of indulging in strong drink today must climb over thousands of warnings to do so.

Haman thought only of himself. He had no sympathy for the sufferings of others. "The city was perplexed," like many cities are under cruel wicked leaders, but Haman was not troubled by their perplexity. "There was great mourning among the Jews, and

fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes" (Esther 4:3).

Little children are frequently perplexed because the Bible and the gospel message they hear so tenderly presented at Sunday School is so tragically ridiculed in the home by their parents. Bewildered, gullible, brain-washed congregations listen in vain for the thundering preachments of the Bible from their God-forsaken pulpits; and perplexed ministerial "Haman," clothed in soft raiment, drawing their breath and their salary, continue to lead their people farther and farther from the heavenly manna.

Dining in a Tallahassee home recently, while engaged in revival services there, a lady attending Florida State University told us of having witnessed to a young woman at the college who declared she did not believe the Bible nor its warnings about Hell. In fact, she did not believe in Hell or Heaven. She said her husband, a ministerial student soon to be a Methodist minister, does not believe the Bible either. This Christian lady was horrified. She said, "Something ought to be done to stop him from becoming a minister!" The young minister's wife replied, "Oh, he won't let his congregation know he doesn't believe the Bible!" This may explain why so many perplexed congregations hear such perplexing preaching from modern pulpits! Sin doesn't clarify, it perplexes!

The godly Queen Esther was informed of the plan to destroy her people. Mordecai sent her the word, "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14b). She called for three days of fasting and prayer, after which she purposed to appear before the king seeking an annulment of the awful plot. This she would do at the risk of her life, for she had not been called in to the inner court of the king for thirty days, and any who did presume to go into his inner court uncalled would certainly be slain, unless the king happened to be in the right mood and held out the golden sceptre to the intruder. Esther said, "We'll pray and trust God and then if I perish, I perish" (Esther 4:16b).

So while Haman enjoyed his hilarity, some of God's people were having a prayer meeting! Would God that we would learn that this is the best way to handle the enemies of God. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16). Prayer still moves the hand that moves the world. After the old pagan king had been thoroughly soaked in prayer, Esther put on her royal apparel and stood in the inner court of the king's house as the king sat upon his royal throne. It was a breathtaking moment. Would Esther perish or had prayer really worked?

"And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favor

in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre. Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom" (Esther 5:2, 3).

Now Esther knew how much Haman loved his parties and banquets. She evidently knew, too, that the way to a man's heart is via his stomach! So she said:

"Let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him. Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. And the king said unto Esther . . . What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom"—vss. 4-6.

Evidently, Esther reasoned, if one banquet has the king in such a good mood, another one would have him in a better mood. Then, too, she wanted to give God plenty of time to work; so Esther announced that there would be another banquet the next day and that on that day she would make her request to the king. Again she wanted to be sure that Haman came along with the king to the banquet.

Haman was in his heyday of hilarity now! He was riding high. Had not the queen invited him to her own private banquet with the king not once but twice? What more could he have but the kingdom itself! His great glee was only dampened by the fact that on the way home from the first banquet he took note of the fact that Mordecai, the Jew, still did not stand up nor move for him when he went by. So he was "full of indignation against Mordecai" (Esther 5:9b).

"Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife. And Haman told them of the glory of his riches, and the multitudes of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king. Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but MYSELF; and tomorrow am I invited unto her also with the king."—Esther 5:10-12.

Thus Haman gloated in his riches and his advancement. He was just about the finest and smartest man he knew of! What a picture of the natural man all taken up with himself. Truly, wrapped in ourselves we make small packages. Haman's glee, however, was changed to gloom by the fact that Mordecai did not do him reverence and bow in his presence. He pouted, "Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate" (Esther 5:13).

Then Haman did what many a sinner has done to his damnation. He listened to an evil woman!

Now thank God for devoted Christian women. Many a man has been made and preserved by a godly wife! In my revival work, I've stayed in pastor's homes where it was easy to see that the dedicated help-mate was the pastor's finest asset in the ministry. Even Pilate would have done well to have listened to his wife.

But many a man has been ruined by the suggestion of a woman. Eve "took of the fruit and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" (Gen. 3:6b).

Ahab's worst curse was Jezebel, his idolatrous wife.

Herod the king made the foolish mistake of listening to Herodias and her sensual daughter.

Many a lust-laden man is described in Proverbs 7:18-23 as the scheming, flirtatious woman coos:

"Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us so-lace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey: he hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed. With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flat-

tering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life."

So Haman listened to Zeresh his wife as he pouted over his wounded pride.

"Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and tomorrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made"—Esther 5:14.

So, "the noose!"

Haman was so excited that he set the alarm early for the next morning. Mordecai must go to the noose.

However, it happened in the providence of God that the king had a bad case of insomnia that night. Evidently his nerves could not be soothed by soft music or by the palace entertainers; so in desperation he finally looked for something boring to be read to him in a last-ditch effort to get to sleep. Out of the dusty archives they brought the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king. As the courtier read away on the boring reports, all of a sudden something caught the king's ear. It seems that sometime previously the king's life had been saved from two desperadoes who sought to lay hands upon him and the one who had delivered the king was the godly Jew, Mordecai! This was the first the king had learned of the attempt upon his life and his subsequent rescue. The would-be assassins had been hung and the event recorded in the chronicles, but the king had not even been informed of it.

Now the king was even more wide awake! "So this man Mordecai saved my life! What honor and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? he inquired. Investigation revealed that no reward had been given to Mordecai.

Suddenly the king heard the sound of a footstep in the walkway outside. Haman was up bright and early. Was this not the day of his second big banquet and also the day on which he was to send Mordecai to the gallows? Oh happy day, Haman! Shushan the palace will never forget this day! The step the king heard was that of Haman coming to speak to the king about hanging Mordecai. But before he could state his mission, the king demanded, "What can we do, Haman, for the man whom the king delighteth to honor?" (Esther 6:6a).

Now Haman, wearing his self-imposed halo, thought to himself, "To whom would the king delight to do honor more than myself?" (Esther 6:6b)

So Haman suggested a trip through the town in royal apparel on the king's horse with the crown royal on his head, and with a noble prince leading the horse through

the town crying, "Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honor!" In his hilarity, Haman was just sure that he was the one to be so honored! But "when pride cometh, then cometh shame" (Prov. 11:2a). So now we see the

Humiliation of Haman.

For the king said to Haman, "Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said; and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken" (vs. 10).

This was the most humiliating command Haman had ever been given! He who thought he was the favorite of the king and the most popular figure in the kingdom, performing the menial task of a mere servant as he led his hated enemy Mordecai through the city, proclaiming, "Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honor!"

Surely the whole thing was no surprise to the godly Mordecai nor to Queen Esther. Had not they prayed and committed the whole matter to God?

So Mordecai came again to the king's gate. "But Haman hastened (Continued on next page)

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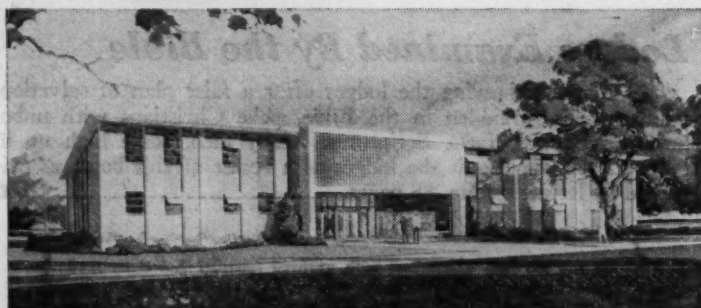
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to his house mourning, and having his head covered" (Esther 6:12).

While he was blubbering to his wife about the deal, who should walk in but the king's chamberlain to bring Haman in haste to the banquet that Esther had prepared (vs. 14). Oh, that every sinner would learn that someday he must come down off his high horse. The lofty looks of man shall be humbled. "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased" (Matt. 23:12a). "The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility" (Prov. 15:33). Haman had no humility, so now he must suffer humiliation.

Usually the sinner comes to public grief and humiliation in this life. "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23b).

Sin does find the sinner out in so many ways, proving conclusively that the way of the transgressor is hard.

Proud, cocky nations have been humiliated in the dust of defeat. Surely America cannot go on insulting God, despising His Word, spurning His grace, for "righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34).

The home that is operated in selfish independence of God is bound to be headed for the humiliation of a downfall. They're falling all over America today with one marriage in three now going on the rocks. Each participant in the divorce blames the other, yet suffers the humiliation that all of their acquaintances know they failed, that their sin found them out in the tragedy of a broken home. And their children will suffer for life from the humiliation of such an event.

The proud drinker is cock-sure that drink will never dominate him! Then, "At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder" (Prov. 23:32). In humiliation he finds himself a tottering, staggering, defeated sot.

Yet many sinners seem never to be humiliated over their sins. They "live, become old, yea, are mighty in power, Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes. Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them . . . They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance . . . They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave" (Job 21:7-13).



Jack Hyles is one of the most unique ministers of our time. Whether you agree with him or disagree, like him or dislike him—and probably the feeling will be very strong one way or the other—he has a ministry and a message that people today need to hear. This sermon, "Seeing Him Who is Invisible," was presented at a Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning and mechanically recorded to give it a wider reach. One thing is certain, whether laughing or crying as you read—and you will probably do both—you will not be bored.

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One concludes that they lived in wickedness and got away with it.

But wait! Has not God said, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall . . . not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God" (Eccles. 8:11-13).

Oh, be sure of this! "Every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:12). There is an end! Has not God said, "Be sure your sin will find you out!" So in some cases the humiliation does not apparently take place until "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is God!" Imagine the humiliation of the proud, college-bred skeptic in that day! The sneering, modernistic preacher will not talk himself out of this. The money-loaded tycoon cannot buy his way out of this dread moment! "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15). After the humiliation of Haman, then came the

Hanging of Haman.

How the banqueting room must have sparkled! Gleaming chalices, sparkling silver, brilliant chandeliers, steaming dishes, smoking meats—oh, what aroma! What tension in the air as "the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen" (Esther 7:1).

It probably made big news. An outsider would have concluded Haman to be one of the most fortunate men in all the kingdom. He is now listed among the upper four hundred. His country club status is assured! His credit is established. Surely the largest churches will compete for his patronage. If Haman were to run for office, he would most surely be elected! This is it! Children will look on enviously at Haman's family. Haman has arrived! Who would not trade places with Haman? Two banquets in a row with the king and the queen! Surely this merits front-page publicity! Send the society editor around to see Mrs. Haman!

"What brand do you smoke, Haman? Surely you use the thinking man's filter!"

"Please give me your autograph, Mr. Haman. Oh, thank you!"

"How about a contract in Hollywood, Mr. Haman?"

"Will you speak at the luncheon club, Haman? All the best people will be there!"

Thus, the hullabaloo continued. The town was a-buzz!

"So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen. And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet, 'What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.'"

Her heart may have been beating like a trip hammer. She may have had to swallow hard to get out the words, but Esther had prayed, and surely God would be with her now. So Esther the queen answered and said:

"If I have found favor in thy sight, O king, and if it please thee, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request: For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish."—Esther 7:1-4a.

Astounded at her words, the king said:

"Who is he and where is he that durst presume in his heart to do so? And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is THIS WICKED HAMAN."—Esther 7:5, 6.

What drama! Haman must have turned white with fear. He was "afraid before the king and the queen" (Esther 7:6).

The king arose in his wrath and stepped into the garden to compose himself.

Haman frantically pled with Esther for his life.

Before she could give answer, the king returned in the fullness of his fury and indignation, and Haman's face was covered for the death march (vs. 8).

What will be done with Haman? Tension reigns. But providence has already de-

creed that "he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death" (Prov. 11:19).

Like a trapped spider, Haman is to be taken in a web of his own weaving!

One of the chamberlains reminded the king of the gallows fifty cubits high which Haman had made for Mordecai, standing in the house of Haman (Esther 7:9).

The king, remembering the kindness of Mordecai in saving his life, and enraged at the treachery of Haman, said, "Hang him there!" (vs. 9).

Every sinner stands thus condemned. Every lost man is under wrath—not the wrath of a finite king, but the righteous wrath of an infinite God! We are, by nature, enemies of a Holy God. This means YOU if you've never been reconciled to God through faith in Christ. "Your sins have hid his face from you" (Isa. 59:2). "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). By nature, "all we like sheep have gone astray" (Isa. 53:6). Sin must be judged either in you and me, the guilty sinners, or in a righteous, innocent substitute who knew no sin. So God "made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Cor. 5:21). By his sin man has made necessary the noose of judgment!

When they marched Haman out to the gallows he was simply receiving his due reward. All will agree that he got what was coming to him. Even so at the judgment of the Great White Throne all will agree—even the condemned sinner himself—that he is getting exactly the treatment he deserves.

The skeptic will believe the Bible in that day!

The modernist will know that Jesus is very God in that august hour of his judgment. For God "hath given him [Christ] authority to execute judgment also, because he is Son of the man" (John 5:27).

The cultist will know there is a burning, literal Hell then!

The moral man will surely realize then that his self-righteous rags are not enough.

When they led Haman out of the gallows there was no one to take his place! No one offered to die in his stead! He had sinned and he must bear his punishment! "So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified" (Esther 7:10). Justice could not rest until Haman was in the noose!

The Bible speaks finally of

The House of Haman.

"Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman" (Esther 8:2b). Imagine that! But has not God said, "If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures" (Job 36:11)? Haman and the house of Haman found that sin results in suffering. For not only did Haman hang, but his family met with grief and destruction, too. All ten of his sons were soon slain in the purge that followed the hanging (Esther 9:10).

So the sinner always brings heartache and misery to his own loved ones and friends. No one liveth to himself. "One sinner destroyeth much good" (Eccles. 9:18). The sin of Haman lived on to curse and blast the lives of others. This is always so. "The ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish" (Ps. 1:5, 6).

Contrast the house of Haman with the house of God's people, the Jews. "The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honor" (Esther 8:16). Like a sinner who has found Christ they were turned "from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day" (Esther 9:22).

Mordecai trusted God, had walked with Him, had obeyed Him! Thus he witnessed God's marvelous deliverance! So while the house of Haman perished, the house of Mordecai shall abide forever!

Haman wound up in the noose! There was no one to take his place, no one to bear his punishment for him!

You and I cannot say that! We have sinned, and the wages of sin

The names of Sunday School teachers are written on God's honor roll although few people in this world ever hear of teachers. Usually the pupils are the ones who are known and remembered as is D. L. Moody. Who was the Sunday School teacher who talked with him about Christ in the back room of his uncle's shoe store? It was Edward Kimball.

is death, but (GOOD NEWS) Someone has taken our place! Christ died for our sins! No one needs to perish, for "whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Christ died to become our substitute.

Look back to the gallows and you find hanging there the man whose sin led him to his own noose!

But look back to Calvary and behold the Saviour hanging there! No wonder John Newton cried,

I saw one hanging on a tree, in agony and blood;
He fixed his languid eyes on me, as near His cross I stood.
Oh, can it be, upon a tree the Saviour died for me?
My soul is thrilled, my heart is filled to think He died for me!

Hallelujah! "I have found a ransom!" (Job 33:23b).

"Neither is there salvation in any other!" (Acts 4:12).

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!" (Acts 16:31).

Escape Condemnation Today

You have read Brother Hugh Pyle's sermon, "The Noose." Oh, I assure you that "it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." And those who are unconverted are not simply going to be condemned at the judgment, but "he that believeth not [the Son] is condemned already" (John

3:18). But you can escape the noose, escape the punishment for sin, escape the torments of Hell. And the way to do it is to run to Jesus in your heart, to trust Him who took your place and paid for your sins.

The death of Christ on the cross was the innocent one suffering for the guilty. He did not deserve to die, but we did, so He died in our place. Now sin is paid for and He can forgive and wants to forgive all who turn in repentance to Him and trust Him.

If you will here and now turn from sin and take Christ as Saviour, I beg you, first, say yes in your heart honestly and once and for all, then sign the decision slip below, copy it in a letter and mail it to the editor.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Brother Pyle's sermon on "The Noose." I realize I am a poor, lost sinner who needs saving. I can see that sin must be punished, and I am so glad that Jesus took my punishment and now offers forgiveness. Without excuses and without delay, I now turn to Christ for mercy. I confess to Him I am a poor, lost sinner. I believe that He died for me. So here and now, today, I trust Him to forgive my sins and save my soul. This moment I give Him my heart forever, I rely upon Him and depend upon Him to give me a new heart and make me a child of God and take me to Heaven. I will set out today to live for Him and will claim Him openly as my Saviour. Please tell Brother Pyle that I have taken Christ as my Saviour, and please send me a letter of counsel and encouragement to live the Christian life.

Signed _____

Address _____

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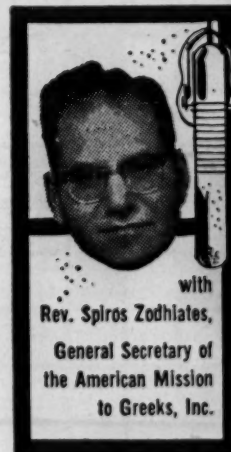
Lodges EXAMINED BY THE Bible

By JOHN R. RICE, D.D., Litt.D.

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LODGE RELIGION IS NOT THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, BUT PAGAN AND ANTICHRISTIAN. (Some lodge members saved, but lodges definitely unchristian; a false religion; Encyclopedia of Freemasonry says religion of Masonry is not Christianity; Odd Fellow's Manual says Jews, Christians, Mohammedans are brethren alike.) **CHAPTER V LODGES DAMN MILLIONS OF SOULS WITH A FALSE PLAN OF SALVATION THAT DENIES THE BLOOD AND REJECTS CHRIST CHAPTER VI "WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD" CHAPTER IX**

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by Elizabeth Handford

Joshua 2

A Scarlet Line — the Symbol of Safety!

Jericho was a doomed city. It and all its people were accursed by God (Josh. 6:17). But a woman, so sinful that her sin became a part of her name—they called her Rahab the harlot—heard about the God of Heaven, and her heart turned toward Him. The men whose lives she saved told her to put a scarlet line in the window. When destruction came, if the scarlet cord was there, she and all her household would be safe. If not, she would die with the rest of the doomed city.

We don't learn the outcome in this chapter, but Joshua 6:22-25 tells us the rest. When Israel's trumpets blew, the walls of the city fell down flat. But Rahab's house was on the city wall! Did it fall down too? No, God worked a miracle to preserve her and her household, because the scarlet line was in the window. So it becomes a picture of the safety we find in the Lord Jesus. We are not safe because we are good. Our goodness is no better than Rahab's sinfulness (Isa. 64:6.) We are safe only because we have trusted in Christ.

It is sweet to see how completely Christ forgives sins and wipes away the past. Not only did God preserve Rahab and her family, but Matthew 1:5 tells us she married a man named Salmon, and that her son Boaz married a girl named Ruth. Remember the rest of the story? Yes, Rahab, a harlot, but redeemed, became an ancestor of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself!

Clues Across

- 1 "_____ had brought them up to the roof"
- 4 "she _____ the scarlet line in the window"
- 8 "Truly _____ Lord hath delivered into our hands all the land"
- 11 "as captain of the host of the Lord _____ I now come" Josh. 5
- 12 existence
- 13 "As _____ as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt"
- 14 "swear unto me _____ the Lord"
- 15 "Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, _____" Ps. 40
- 16 "I will not justify the _____" Exod. 23
- 17 animal God used in plague against the Egyptians (Exod. 8:6)
- 18 initials of wife and oldest son of Isaac (Gen. 25:21, 25)
- 19 "thou shalt bind this line of _____ thread in the window"
- 21 "she bound the scarlet _____ in the window"
- 23 "thy servant became surety for the _____ unto my father" Gen. 44
- 24 "the Lord your God, _____ is God in heaven above"
- 26 initials of wife and father of Isaac (Gen. 21:3; 24:67)
- 28 inquisitive
- 30 "as for me and my house, we will _____ the Lord" Josh. 24
- 31 "neither did there remain any more courage _____ any man"
- 32 "how long will it be _____ they believe me?" Num. 14
- 33 "for _____ will ye die, O house of Israel?" Ezek. 18
- 35 "_____ Lord dried up the water of the Red sea"
- 36 "she let them down by a cord through the _____"
- 39 African tree
- 40 "it shall _____, when the Lord hath given us the land"
- 41 "when he had _____ all, there arose a mighty famine" Luke 15

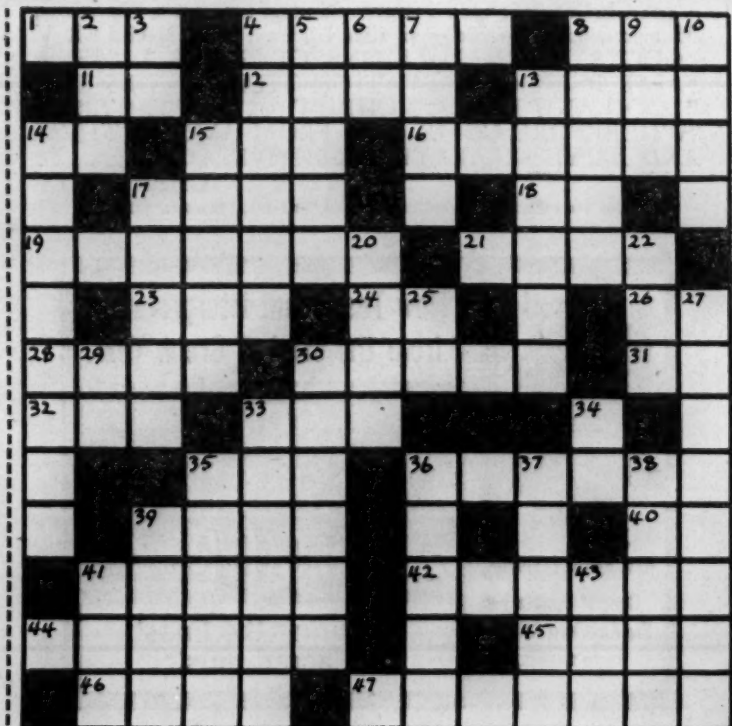
- 42 "forsake not the law of thy _____" Prov. 1
- 44 "for they be come to _____ out all the country"
- 45 "the waters which came down from above stood and _____ up upon an heap" Josh. 3
- 46 "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the _____" I Pet. 2
- 47 "Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are _____ into thine house"

Clues Down

- 2 "wood, _____, stubble" I Cor. 3:12
- 3 printer's measure
- 4 "_____ there came men in hither to night"
- 5 river in Missouri (s_____)
- 6 "all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of _____"
- 7 "so is good _____ from a far country" Prov. 25
- 8 "give me a true _____"
- 9 garden implement
- 10 "the Lord, the Creator of the _____ of the earth, fainteth not" Isa. 40
- 13 "a certain _____ came, and said unto him, Master" Matt. 8
- 14 "if thou utter this our _____, then we will be quit"
- 15 "the terrors of God do set themselves in _____ against me" Job 6
- 17 "therefore I hate every _____ way" Ps. 119
- 20 "all that _____ have, and deliver our lives from death" Josh. 2
- 22 son of Gad (Gen. 46:16)
- 25 son of Judah (Gen. 38:3)
- 27 "the men _____ her, Our life for your's"
- 29 "turn not from it to the right hand _____ to the left" Josh. 1
- 30 "Put up thy sword into the _____: the cup which my Father hath given me shall I not drink it?" John 18
- 33 "but I wist not _____ they were"
- 34 an altar (Josh. 22:34)

Deadline: May 1, 1961

Puzzle No. 16



Mail to: Puzzle Editor, SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois
PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

(Cut along dotted lines)

Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 2)

get in touch with Dr. Bill Rice at once.

Those who are burdened about the great soul-winning work being done for the deaf and others, and the out-and-out Christian conference ground which blesses thousands each year—maybe God wants you to send an earnest, sacrificial gift for this missionary cause. It is incorporated not for profit. All gifts are deductible from income tax. Dr. Bill Rice and his very gifted wife and family serve sacrificially. The books are well kept. On the corporation board are this editor, Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., Mr. E. E. Widner of Dallas, and Mr. Ed Whitley of Wilson, North Carolina. It is worthy of your interest, your gifts, and your prayers. I want to help what I can. I know that hundreds of other good people ought to help. Will you write Dr. Bill today and tell him what you think you can do to help?

New Printing "Ruin of a Christian" and "When Skeletons Come Out of Their Closets" Now Available

We have been very sorry that *Ruin of a Christian* by Editor John R. Rice was temporarily out of print and also the book of sermons, *When Skeletons Come Out of Their Closets*. Now both of these have been beautifully reprinted in hard binding.

These are two of the most popular books by this editor. The chapters of *Ruin of a Christian* are as follows: "The Ruin of a Christian," "Lukewarmness—the

APOSTOLIC ZEAL

By Charles H. Spurgeon

O for the zeal of Wesley and Whitefield, the zeal of men who were always preaching or praying, men who seemed as if they knew no weariness, or shook it off as dust from their feet! Oh, to have the zeal of apostolic times again, when the very least among you should be ready to be martyrs for Christ, if need be; and when all of you should testify of Him, wherever you were called to go. Oh, for more zeal in the household, that you might seek more anxiously the conversion of your children; more zeal in the workshop, that you might communicate to your fellow-workmen the spirit which actuates and moves you. Oh, for more zeal in the Church, and Church-meetings, and prayer-meetings, that everything might be done with spirit. Above all, oh, for more zeal in the pulpit. Holy fire come down! We have the wood, we have the altar, we have the sacrifice, but we want the fire!

Have you not remarked how much a man may do who is clothed with zeal? Some of our brethren in the ministry, to whom we have listened, have stirred our passions, have made our blood boil after a sacred fashion, and yet their talents have been very few, and we have felt while they were speaking that they made better use of one talent than some have made of ten. Believe me, it is not the extent of your knowledge, though that is useful, it is not the extent of your talent or tact, though these have their place, it is your zeal—your zeal that shall perform God's work.

Shall your zeal relax? Will you draw back, will you lose your force, will you slacken in prayer, will you refuse to receive the blessing which awaits you? Will you take your heads from the crown when it is ready to descend. I pray you do not so. Let us be banded together as one man; let us contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints; let us pray with fervour, let us live in holiness, let us preach constantly, and preach with fire, and let us so live, that we may impress our age, and leave our footprints on the sands of time.

Free!

for correct,
prompt answers to
Puzzle Number 16



This booklet was written by the director of the Missions Department of the Back to the Bible Broadcast—a man certainly familiar with missions and missionary questions.

However, this is not a "missionary field" question—it is a question of what the Bible says about the spiritual status of the heathen. Human imagination or reasoning must not enter into this kind of a discussion. Rev. Weiss has given a Scripture-saturated study which will remove completely and, I trust, forever any doubt regarding the fact that the heathen are hopelessly lost and must be reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ if they are to miss eternal Hell and gain God's glorious Heaven. Get this book—then do something about it!

THE RULES

1. Fill in blanks according to clues given. Answers must be complete and correct.
2. PRINT name and address in blank below puzzle. This coupon serves as your address label for envelope containing your prize. If you print your answers on a separate sheet in order to not cut your SWORD, put them in the same form as the puzzle rather than in columns. Entries will not be returned.
3. If paper arrives after deadline, place date of arrival on puzzle entry. Answer to Puzzle Number 16 will appear in May 12 issue.
4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along with the weekly prize. Save these coupons! Your January 27 issue of THE SWORD carried the news of these special prizes: Bible with concordance or Rainbow edition of the Bible for young readers (King James Version) for 48 coupons; a compact and easy to handle Bible (King James Version) for 40 coupons; Illustrated Bible Geography and Atlas for 25 coupons.

Remember, your coupons are the only record of your correct entries. It will be your responsibility to keep the coupons. Duplicate coupons will not count as two separate coupons. ALWAYS INCLUDE YOUR COMPLETE ADDRESS ON PUZZLE, NOTE, OR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

Answer to Puzzle No. 13

THERE SHALL A
RID ABOUT ALL
AT O ALSO V M
N AMALEK BERI
COME A STAR G
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THIRD ED AR Y
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RIVERS TRIED

Sin That Makes God Vomit," "God's Slaughter Crew," "The Curse of Hidden Sins," "The Sin of Lying," "Break Up Your Fallow Ground, and Sow Not Among Thorns," "The Seven-Fold Sin of Those Who Do Not Win Souls," "Speak Not Evil One of Another, Brethren," "Judge Not!" "Be Ye Not Unequally Yoked Together With Unbelievers," "Washing Dirty Feet," "A New Start." There are 253 pages, the price \$2.50, add 15c postage. There have been 33,167 copies published of *Ruin of a Christian*. It has blessed thousands. Some reviewers put it next to *Prayer—Asking and Receiving* in usefulness and popularity.

When *Skeletons Come Out of Their Closets* include eleven of the most useful evangelistic sermons that the editor has preached. These sermons are: (1) "When Skeletons Come Out of Their Closets," (2) "Appointed to Die!" (Continued on page 11)

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VITAMINS

"Remedies and Rackets," a new book by James Cook exposing the truth about patent medicine practices, reveals startling facts in authoritative reporting.

Perhaps one of the most shocking revelations, in the chapter titled "Vitamins and Voodoo," deals with the extremely wide variance of Vitamin and Vitamin-Mineral combination prices.

We reprint the following paragraphs by special permission.

"Actually, any particular vitamin bottled under one label is, for all practical and therapeutic purposes, the same as it is when bottled under another label. As a matter of fact, most of the vitamin concentrates consumed in our country are produced by only a few companies.

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Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 10)

(3) "America Gets Back Her Scrap Iron," (4) "The Backslider," (5) "The Master Is Come, and Callet for Thee," (6) "Christians Watching Jesus Die," (7) "Lost Sinners at the Cross of Christ," (8) "What Shall I Do Then With Jesus?" (9) "The Uncondemning Saviour," (10) "Jesus, the Sinner's Refuge," (11) "The Last Invitation in the Bible." There are 191 pages, lovely library hard binding, simulated cloth cover. Thousands have been saved through these sermons as preached in revivals, and hundreds at least have found Christ through them in printed form. The price is \$2.00 a copy, add 15c postage. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

50 Subscriptions, 7,500 Sermons for \$100!

Suppose you could invest \$100 in missions for the Lord and suppose it would guarantee that fifty families would have the Gospel for an entire year. Any children in the family would be nearly certain to read the "Kids Korner." The women, the wives and moth-

All of Northwestern Washington is covered by the powerful signal of KGDN, Christian radio station, Seattle. Hear the VOICE OF REVIVAL with Dr. John R. Rice each Sunday at 7:30 A.M.—630 kc.

ers, would certainly read "From My Kitchen Window," as would most of the men. So for a year you could preach the Gospel every week to about two hundred people. \$100 sent to pay for fifty yearly subscriptions to THE SWORD would pay for printing about 7,500 copies of sermons. And 2,500 of these sermons would be pointedly addressed to the unsaved, to convict them of sin, to show them how to be saved, to press upon them the need for decision. I believe that more people would get the Gospel, more Christians would be built up in the faith and more lost sinners would know the truth about sin and salvation, by \$100 invested in sending THE SWORD OF THE LORD to fifty families than in nearly any other way. You may send the names of families that you know who need the Gospel. You may send THE SWORD to young converts. You may send it to ministerial students. You can pick out unsaved men for whom you will agree with the Lord that you will pray every day. Oh, what a missionary opportunity it would be.

I am asking now that hundreds of readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD set out to save up week by week, or to send in subscriptions week by week until you send fifty subscriptions at \$2.00 each.

Perhaps you could send only five subscriptions a week for \$10. All right, do that much and then do some more the next week.

And now for each ten subscriptions you send in at \$2.00 a year, you may have free either a copy of Dr. George W. Truett's sermons, 379 pages, twenty-four sermons named *A Quest for Souls*, or "Billy" Sunday: *The Man and His Message*, 189 pages, or this editor's book of nine sermons, *Compel Them to Come In*, brand new, hard library binding, simulated cloth cover, a book that will sell for a good price, but which we are offering free with subscrip-

tions now. In fact, if you will undertake to send fifty subscriptions, we will let you extend this present subscription campaign for an extra month or two to finish these and get the premiums. But this promise is only for those who send groups of ten or more subscriptions at this rate at a time, or those who send a written promise to get fifty subscriptions as a quota. This is a rock-bottom rate, and we want the help of hundreds of others. Please help us spread THE SWORD OF THE LORD. So many souls will be saved, so many Christians blessed, if you will do your part. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois. Please tell this editor you will send fifty subscriptions for \$100 as a missionary enterprise, trusting the dear Lord to use it wonderfully. And if you cannot send all the names, we will furnish names ourselves. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

"Storehouse" Tithing Unscriptural and Selfish

We are for tithing. We know how blessed it is to trust the Lord and now for many, many years we have given far more than a tithe to the Lord's cause. And we know it pays to trust the Lord and give.

And we are for Christians supporting their local churches, too, in proportion as they are able, in proportion as the local churches carry out the will of God in soul-winning power and are true to the Word of God. But we are against the unscriptural doctrine that all the tithes have to come through the local church treasury in order to please God. Nothing like that is taught in the Bible.

On the contrary, I Corinthians 16:1 and 2 plainly says: "Now concerning the collection for the saints . . . Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." Every Christian is to set aside the Lord's money according as God has prospered him and this he is to "lay by him in store." The Christian's own storehouse is the only one mentioned in the Bible for New Testament Christians.

The Roman Catholic Church teaches the unscriptural and wicked doctrine that salvation can come only through the church, that only the church can decide what the Scripture teaches, that only the church through the priest can forgive sins, etc. I say that is a wicked doctrine because it takes the glory from Jesus Christ and puts it in a man-made organization. The doctrine of so-called "storehouse" tithing is the same kind of a doctrine. It puts the emphasis on the church, the program, the organization instead of on Jesus Christ and on the clear leading of the Spirit of God, in answer to prayer.

The Bible plan of giving is "every man . . . as he purposeth in his heart . . . for God loveth a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7). God wants the individual Christian to be responsible for giving the money and using the talents, and the time which God has given him. God does not want that holy privilege and that solemn responsibility to be taken over by a priest, nor by a pastor, nor by a finance committee, nor by a denominational secretary.

How selfish it is for a pastor to say to his members, "Your money will never count as a tithe unless it comes into the treasury from which I must get my salary." That is not only unscriptural, it is selfish. It is unworthy. Why not teach the people the needs of the church and sell them on what is proper and right by the wonderful blessings of God on the local church in soul winning? Why not teach people that whatever teacher or preacher is used of God to bless them should be supported as Galatians 6:6 plainly says?

I do not want all of your tithe to be spent to help THE SWORD OF THE LORD to get out the Gospel. I want you to pray and find the will of God and then I want you to help your own local church, if it is true to Christ and the Bible, and then I want you to help THE SWORD OF THE LORD, too, as you pray and find what will please God. And when you give money because you feel clearly led of God to do so, in answer to prayer,

then we can expect God to bless the giving.

Every Christian ought to pray about his giving. Every Christian ought to give in the way that will most honor Christ, will get more people saved and build up Christians. And THE SWORD OF THE LORD does not ask for support on any basis except that it is worthy, that it is a great soul-winning, revival-stirring publication blessed to many tens of thousands and winning thousands of souls. We believe that those who pray about it and let God lead them will want to help in this work as well as helping in the local church obligations and some other missionary causes that are worthy.

Praise the Lord for a Flood of Subscriptions!

We are glad for the hundreds of subscriptions coming in for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. And my, how popular that big book of twenty-four sermons by Dr. George W. Truett, *A Quest for Souls*, is proving! I knew you would want that. What a bargain it is to get that big book of 379 pages, twenty-four sermons, twenty-four prayers, Dr. George W. Truett at his best, heart-warming, soul-saving, gospel preaching, free with a year's subscription for \$3.00 or for two yearly subscriptions (new or renewal) for \$5.00 or for three yearly subscriptions for \$7.00 or with ten yearly subscriptions for \$20.

And we are glad, too, that many are choosing the premium, "Billy" Sunday: *The Man and His Message*, by Dr. William Ellis. That is a wonderful good book, 189 pages and every home ought to have it.

However, we stress the other books because we want you to have them. And now I ought to tell you something special about my own new book of sermons, *Compel Them to Come In*. It is a hard-bound, library volume. We could not get the Truett book and the Billy Sunday book in hard binding or library binding because of the extra cost. It was simply impossible to get them in such a form at a price we could afford, and give them away. They are really a great value in the nice paper-bound editions which we are offering you.

But we were able to put the book, *Compel Them to Come In*, in cloth binding. First, the editor gets no royalty for this book. Second, these sermons had already been run in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, some of them years ago, and from the type used in THE SWORD, we are reproducing these and so we saved the cost of setting them in type anew. And that made it so we could get much more in the book of 160 pages. And so you can get free, this beautiful simulated clothbound book with a subscription just as you are getting the other two paper-bound books free with subscriptions.

Later you will be paying much more for this book of sermons in cloth, but I want you to have it now. And the sermons in this book are among the very choicest of sermons, the most popular I have preached in Bible conferences and elsewhere.

So if you can, send extra subscriptions and get my book of nine sermons, *Compel Them to Come In*, a beautiful expensive bound book which you will cherish and which I know God will use to change lives.

My Besetting Sin

Yes, I think I ought to confess to God and to you who love me and pray for me, that I, too, am guilty of the besetting sin. That besetting sin of Hebrews 12:1 and 2 is the sin of small faith and lack of faith. That is "the sin which doth so easily beset us," which we are commanded to lay aside.

I think God has done so many wonderful things in answer to prayer for me, that I ought to be ashamed not to trust Him for more. God has put through my hands, and used in getting out the Gospel, about eight million dollars! That is wonderful. He has helped to bring back great city-wide campaigns in America, and has made possible great campaigns in Chicago, Buffalo, Cleveland, Seattle, Miami, Winston-Salem, Birmingham, etc. He has gotten out over twenty million copies of my books and pamphlets. Many tens of thousands have been saved

through this unworthy preacher, and through the literature He has so blessed. We have just been adding up again and found that through the English edition of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" we have had over 12,000 letters from people who wrote to tell us that they through this single message found Christ!

I am sorry that I have asked so little of God. Now I am asking you to help me trust the Lord and I am asking God to help us do right. We need thousands of dollars to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to missionaries, national pastors in foreign countries, and to ministerial students and others. Many could not pay for themselves and others would pay for themselves after they got acquainted with the magazine. I am asking for thousands of dollars for our Free Literature Fund. I am so ashamed when I have to turn down a plea from missionaries who are already organized to give out the booklet in foreign countries, and we cannot furnish the money to print it as we have done in the past. Missionaries in Korea are waiting for a hundred thousand copies. Missionaries in Portugal, organized to get out this literature, are begging us for fifty thousand or a hundred thousand copies. Missionaries in India write pleading letters wanting the book republished in several languages where it has been blessed in India. In Latin America the native pastors and other Christian organizations are pleading for many thousands of copies in Spanish. If we have fifty thousand dollars for this Free Literature Fund now, it would not keep up with the needs except for a few months. Oh, then God give us big faith and God give us others to help us trust Him and get out the Gospel to the millions who wait.

Does God speak to your heart to help either the Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund, or the Free Literature Fund, or the radio fund through which we are to preach the Gospel to millions in America? Then pray first and then send your gift and tell us you join us in carrying this burden of prayer. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

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"The Greek New Testament is God's latest word to men," says Arthur M. Ross, professor of New Testament at Faith Theological Seminary.

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God has solemnly warned in Ezekiel 3:18, "When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand." This large booklet of 32 big pages contains two messages by the beloved editor of THE SWORD OF THE LORD relative to this truth.

First is the sermon, "The Seven-Fold Sin of Those Who Do Not Win Souls," and the seven wrongs are described.

The second message has to do with the "how" of soul winning and is entitled, "God's Way in Soul Winning." The text is taken from Psalm 126:6 and the verse is analyzed to show that it teaches five truths.

Timely indeed is the word of the author: "Christian, if you are defeated, discontented, unhappy; if you have lost the joy of the Lord and you do not enjoy prayer and the Bible and Christian service as you once did, then what you need to do is to give yourself with a holy abandon to going after sinners, weeping, bearing precious seed. When you come back, as you doubtless will, the Scripture says, with sheaves, then you will come with rejoicing. Lost joy will be restored to the Christian who wins souls."

25c each, 5 for \$1, or 30 for \$5

Sword of the Lord
Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois

Second Coming . . .

(Continued from page 1)

that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

9. It is made the great motive for godly living (Titus 2:11-13): "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope."

10. It is made the great motive for watchfulness by our Saviour Himself (Luke 12:35-40): "Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. And this know, that if the good man of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also; for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not."

11. It is made the great motive for the performance of good works by the same authority, and by that of John (Matt. 16:27): "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works." (Rev. 22:12): "Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

12. It is made the great motive for urging sinners to repentance (Acts 3:19-21): "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you; whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things."

Now we confidently ask, Who can show any other motive so urgently pressed by Christ and by the sacred writers for the culture of all Christian virtue? Are we not then fully justified in saying that the doctrine of Christ's speedy coming is eminently practical and inspiring?

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The Unknown Teacher

I sing of the unknown teacher. Great generals win campaigns, but it is the unknown soldier who wins the war. It is the unknown teacher who delivers and guides the young. She lives in obscurity and contends with hardship. For her no trumpets blare, no chariots wait, no golden decorations are decreed. She keeps the watch along the borders of darkness and makes the attack on the trenches of ignorance and folly. She awakens sleeping spirits. She quickens the indolent, the unstable. She communicates her own joy in learning and shares with boys and girls the very best treasures of her mind. She lights many candles which, in later years will shine back to cheer her. This is her reward.

—Henry Van Dyke

Kitchen Window

(Continued from page 2)

bus is always gone before I get there.

Whereupon her case lay so heavily upon my heart that I awoke, and behold! it was not all a dream."

Perhaps the problem is, after all, that we have never really decided which of our duties are most important. We are torn between the responsibilities of being a house-keeper, being a mother, being a wife, being a neighbor, being a Christian. In the over-all sense it is not only possible, but right to be all of these things successfully and yet with all of us there is the continual question, "How much time should I spend with the house . . . with church work . . . with the children?"

None can give a complete answer to any other individual. Every person is responsible to God for the use of his time. But this much is certain: some things cannot wait. I think I am safe in saying that no Christian parent deliberately lets his child grow up without the Lord. What actually happens is that we think, "I have plenty of time to see that my children are saved . . . they are so small yet . . . when they are old enough to understand we will start family Bible reading." Then, almost before we know it, our children are grown, our in-

Need New Vision

(Continued from page 1)

over one every second dies somewhere in the world.

I just returned from the bedside of a woman dying in a hospital. Thank God she is saved, but I thought as I left her side of the thousands of others who today will die without Christ. Many of them have never known that Jesus died for them.

God give us a new vision of a world in need! If we could some way get a glimpse of Hell and the awfulness of going there, we would begin to make our time really count for God. So much of what we do is relatively unimportant. Most of our time is spent on things that will not matter at all in eternity. This is primarily because we lack a vision.

Will you pray today and ask God to give you a new vision of your community? Will you pray and ask God to give your own local church a new vision of the tremendous need to win souls to Christ?

You Can Help Others

In addition to having a great vision of lost souls, you ought to ask God to help you spread this vision to others. You can only do so much. How wonderful it would be if you could help many other Christians to really get a vision of the need for soul winning and revival in these wicked days. Others must be enlisted to share your vision if our communities are to be reached and if America is to be saved for the next generation. Jesus said, "Pray ye therefore the

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fluence is gone and there is nothing left but the bitter cry, "Too late! Too late!"

How many a time has a husband stood at some crossroad of decision which would affect the course of a lifetime, but because a wife did not put her husband first, in tender obedience and prayerful concern, he made the wrong decision and thereby wasted a lifetime of usefulness and blessing. If a wife, through her preoccupation with other things, fails to be the encouragement for right that her husband needs, then she has missed her highest and best calling. She has said "wait a minute" to her most important duty.

"See that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is"—Ephesians 5:15-17.

Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matt. 9:38).

Perhaps one of the ways you can help God to answer your prayer for additional laborers in the harvest field—men and women of vision—would be to acquaint them with the ministry of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I am sure that in our country today there are thousands of young men and women who ought to be serving the Lord in serious full-time, soul-winning work, either here or on the mission field. Perhaps you ought to pray and ask God to show you the promising young people in your community who could well be challenged by THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Sending them a subscription to THE SWORD is one of the finest ways you have of influencing their lives for eternity. Few people can read this evangelistic paper without catching a vision of what can be done in personal soul winning. Preachers across the nation, too, need THE SWORD OF THE LORD to help them get a clear vision of what God means for them to do in their churches. So you see, you could have a tremendous part in increasing the vision of those who ought to be getting out the Gospel.

Then also you could send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to unsaved friends and loved ones. We hear nearly every day from folk saved through our literature. I can think of no better way to week by week keep the Gospel before your friends and loved ones than by giving them a gift subscription.

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